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Hafa Adai!

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Labor seeks court's help to collect $416K from Dynasty

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Department of Labor has filed a lawsuit against Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments Ltd., owner of Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, for allegedly not complying with their settlement agreement for failing to pay $416,241.37 in liquidated damages that were assessed for non-payment of wages to Dynasty's over 500 current and former workers.

Assistant attorney general Michael Witry, counsel for Labor, asked the Superior Court to register their consent judgment as a court judgment.

In Labor's complaint, Witry requested the court to issue an order in aid of judgment, providing for the transfer of particular Dynasty assets at a price to be determined by the court.

As alternative, Witry asked the court to order for the sale of particular Dynasty assets and payment of the net proceeds to Labor.

Another option, Witry said, is a court order for payments, in specified installments on particular dates or at specified inter-

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CNMI second in National Academic finals

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Team CNMI captain Harry Noh, center, celebrates with other members of the squad after placing second in the 9th Junior National Academic Championship last Sunday at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center in Virginia.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI came close to winning the 2016 Junior National Academic Championship after placing second in the tough finals held Sunday (Monday on Saipan) at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center in Virginia.

Wooster Junior High of Cleveland, Ohio ruled the competition by beating Team CNMI—represented by five middle school students of Grace Christian Academy—in their head-to-head finals showdown.

It was the first time for the CNMI and GCA to see action in the ninth edition of the annual academic tournament where 22 other squads also competing. It was also a first for a

See CNMI on Page 4

SSHS seniors to graduate on new stage next year

JON PEREZ

Kensington Hotel president and general manager Myung Wook "Matthew" Park, second right, signs the memorandum of agreement between E-Land and Saipan Southern High School in the construction of the school's stage. Looking on is SSHS Parent-Teacher-Student Association Dora Miura, right, while CNMI State Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero, second left, and Edcuation Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan look on.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Southern High School's incoming senior students will be the first batch that will use a fully functioning stage facility when they graduate next year. The project, made possible by SSHS' Parent-Teacher-Student Association, is in partnership with E-Land Group.

The stage, which measures 29 feet by 50 feet, will be located at the back of Building C and just across Buildings A and B. Construction will begin on or after June 11,with the eight-week project expected to be finished before the opening of school year 2017.

SSHS principal Martha Kintol said the stage is something that their school needs and it would be used for all of their events like concerts by the multi-awarded Manta Ray Band and graduation ceremony next year.

"We've been working with the project for a number of years and now we found a partner. I speak in

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INSIDE

LOCAL
The Northern Marianas College's Palauan Club raised close to 1,000 cases of bottled water from a water donation drive.
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NATION
Violent crimes–from homicides and rapes to robberies–have been on the rise in many major U.S. cities.
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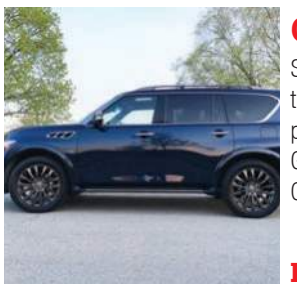

OVERDRIVE
Some objects are larger than they appear: Pro basketball players, locomotives, the Grand Canyon. Add the Infiniti QX80 to the larger than life list.
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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Pastor charged over fatal van crash refuses to return to Saipan

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A pastor who was the driver of a van that crashed into a utility pole on As Perdido Road that left a pregnant woman and her unborn child dead and three others injured in 2014, has allegedly refused to return to the CNMI to face charges after he was allowed to travel to South Korea supposedly for medical treatment.

The pastor, Chang Hee Nam, is now facing a separate civil lawsuit filed in the Superior Court.

Yancan Liu filed the lawsuit as guardian and grandfather of a minor boy, Yinghui Liu, who was among those injured in the accident.

Li Liu and Xianghua Jin are also co-plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

Li Liu is the mother of the boy. Jin was also among those injured in the crash.

The plaintiffs, through counsel Samuel I. Mok, are suing pastor Chang Hee Nam and Saipan Good Baptist Church Inc. for negligence and negligent infliction of emotional distress.

In addition, Saipan Good Baptist Church Inc. was sued for negligent entrustment, negligent hiring and retention, and negligent supervision and training.

Nam, a Korean, was also director and vice president of Saipan Good Baptist Church Inc.

The plaintiffs asked the court to hold the defendants liable to pay them damages, court costs, and attorney's fees. They demanded a jury trial.

According to Mok in the lawsuit, Nam was the authorized operator of a 2001 Toyota Sienna passenger van, owned by Saipan Good Baptist Church Inc.

Mok said that on June 22, 2014 at 11am, Nam was driving the van with their five congregation members or worshippers (three adults, one minor, and an unborn child) to church services when the van crashed into a utility pole along As Perdido Road.

Mok said Nam was travelling eastbound at an excessive rate of speed on a two-lane As Perdido Road approximately 500 feet west of the CNMI Parks and Recreation Office.

Mok said the van did not have any baby-seats or any functioning seatbelts for passengers.

Mok said prior to the accident, Nam had received numerous traffic citations for speeding and for failing to wear his seatbelt and/or ensuring others in his car were wearing seatbelts.

As a result of the accident, the then-3-year-old Yinghui Liu suffered serious injuries such as a fractured left femur, cuts throughout his body, and contusions on his forehead, shoulder, and temple.

Li Liu also suffered serious injuries such as right cerebellar hemorrhagic contusion as well as multiple fractures in her left arm and multiple fractures in her left hip.

Xianghua Jin suffered a fracture in her left pelvis and hip.

Mok said the accident was so severe that Department of Public Safety's rescue personnel had to use the "Jaws of Life" to remove all of the victims from the van.

A 5-month pregnant woman, who was one of the passengers, was declared dead on arrival at the Commonwealth Health Center along with her unborn child.

Police then arrested Nam for various violations of traffic laws, including speeding, reckless driving, failing to use seatbelts, and vehicular homicide.

Mok said according to police investigation, it was calculated that Nam was driving the van at 55.29 miles per hour.

Ultimately, the Office of the Attorney General charged Nam with homicide by vehicle, reckless driving, speeding, operating a vehicle with passengers not using a passenger restraint system, and operating a vehicle with child passenger not using a child passenger restraint system.

Mok said the court allowed Nam to travel to South Korea so that he may obtain purported medical treatment for his injuries.

Mok said Nam, however, refused to return to Saipan.

In March 2015, the court revoked Nam's bail and issued a bench warrant for his arrest and set bail at $150,000 cash.

Mok said as of the filing of this lawsuit, the plaintiffs have not fully recovered from their injuries and their damages continue to accrue in an amount to be determined at trial.

Mok said Saipan Good Baptist Church Inc., as the employer of Nam, had the right to permit and the power to prohibit Nam's use of the van.

Mok said Saipan Good Baptist Church Inc. knew or had reason to know because of prior traffic violations and other incidents or actions that allowing Nam to operate the van to transport worshippers to Sunday church services involved an unreasonable risk of harm to plaintiffs and others.

Mok said Yinghui Liu personally witnessed his mother, Li Liu, suffer multiple injuries that caused him emotional distress, mental anguish, fear, stress, and anxiety.

The lawyer said Li Liu witnessed her 3-year-old son, Yinghui Liu, suffer multiple injuries that led to her emotional distress, mental anguish, fear, stress and anxiety.

Mok said Xianghua Jin witnessed the co-plaintiffs with whom she has close, personal relationships with, suffer serious personal injuries that caused her emotional distress, mental anguish, fear, stress, and anxiety.

St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement

Registered Nurse (06)
- Must pass NCLEX-RN with current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to Five years experience in hemodialysis or related field
- English language skills – proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-service training with Baxter Phoenix Machines
- Experience with Ameriwater Bicarbonate Distribution System

Hemodialysis Technicians (07)
- Certificate from Junior College/Technician School in Healthcare or related field
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Three years hemodialysis experience preferred
- English language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Flexible with time schedule

Water Treatment Technician (02)
- Must be able to perform task which may not appear difficult at first glance, but requires a high degree of knowledge and experience to properly operate and maintain
- Operational knowledge of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems
- Knowledge of the theory of fluid dynamics
- Understand the mathematical relationships and common formulas of basic water treatment and distribution systems
- Know the specific operations of the water treatment distribution systems, unique to a dialysis unit
- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities, safety & life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency test for Certified Water Treatment and Distribution Operators Level II
- Understand plumbing code and plumbing techniques
- Be able to demonstrate safe working techniques, proper plumbing techniques, when working pressure vessels
- Able to demonstrate proper plumbing techniques especially when working with PVC
- To accept and perform all other duties as may be assigned

Building Maintenance and Repair (03)
- Perform a variety of preventive maintenance and repair tasks on the facilities equipment, including some of the more complex repair task
- Perform preventive maintenance and makes routine repairs to electrical, plumbing and security systems
- Perform rough and finish carpentry work and takes the lead on projects such as building and paneling walls and petitions
- Install solar panels with experience in the maintenance of PV Models
- Maintains and repairs various equipment
- High School Graduate or Equivalent

Commercial Cleaners (02)
- Operate various mechanized cleaning equipment, such as vacuums, buffers and etc.
- Maintain facility in a sanitary and infection-free condition through washing, cleaning and replacement of equipment and furnishings
- Requires working in a damp, dusty and dirty areas. Must clean up human waste and other body fluids as required
- Responsible for disposal of trash, waste and other disposable materials
- Must handle various cleaning solvents and chemicals that is required by Medicare
- Damp dust furniture, light fixtures, windows and etc.
- Empty trash containers daily
- Clean and mop bathrooms daily. Mop all corridor floors, lobby and other floors daily
- Report any needed repairs immediately
- Check entire area for spills, water, etc., periodically, especially in patients areas and lobby
- Use safety precautions in all housekeeping and post occupancy
- Required to maintain and clean in an orderly manner at the business office, Dr.'s office, accounting office, dietician and clinic managers' office
- Must be able to work flexible hours
- Must have their own transportation

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc. in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application or resume will be on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 4:00pm. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

Beach Road Pathway renamed after 'Lang'

The Saipan Beach Road pathway has been renamed the "Governor Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Road Pathway," after acting governor Victor Hocog signed a local law last month to rename the pathway after the former governor.

House Local Bill 19-47 is now Saipan Local Law 19-14 and states that its purpose is to honor Tenorio's "vision and initiative to construct a pathway showcasing the beauty and historical features of the island," by renaming the pathway.

The pathway was constructed during the tenure of Gov. Froilan Tenorio, affectionally called Lang, with funds from a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The bill says that before the pathway was constructed, the area along the beach from Oleai to Garapan was "underdeveloped and under-used."

"Governor Tenorio envisioned the pathway as a means to beautify the area and make it more accessible to the public. After its initial construction, the pathway became so popular that it was extended in each direction. Residents and visitors alike use the pathway for community and cultural events and for fitness and health training.

"The pathway is a great site to enjoy the beauty that surrounds our islands, including the magnificent sunsets over the lagoon, and to remember the historical events that shaped our political status," the bill adds.

It says the pathway continues to be a symbol of the island's identity and character and has been used by many and appreciated by all.

It tasks the Office of Governor, in consultation with Tenorio and his family, to prepare a plan of dedication including at minimum, the construction and placement, with an appropriate ceremony, of a sign at or near each end of the original pathway. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
Job Vacancy Announcement

Registered Nurse (01)
- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN license
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- At least two to five year's experience
- English language skills - proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

Front Office Manager (01)
- At least with over six year's experience in medical billing, electronic health records and practice partner record
- Must be familiar with medical terminology, ICD 9, coding of medical procedures and diagnosis
- College Graduate
- English language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Must be a certified pharmacy technician
- Must be proficient in computer skills, spreadsheet and general accounting skills

Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician (01)
- At least six year's experience or related field
- Must hold a Bachelor of Science in Radiology Technology
- Must have over six year's experience in electronic health and practice partner records
- Experience/knowledgeable with practice partner software in electronic health records usage
- Licensed by Medical Professional Licensing Board, CNMI

General Yard Maintenance (02)
- At least two years' experience with preferred skills
- Experienced in assisting a building construction/renovation
- Maintain the interior and exterior of the clinic in a neat and orderly condition
- Maintain plants by transplanting and fertilizing
- Assist in cleaning the clinics' air conditionings
- Flexible in assisting other related maintenance duties
- Flexible with time schedule

Healthcare Clinic System Manager (01)
- Minimum of three to five years work related skills, knowledge or experience
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent
- Maintain specialized computer programs relating to healthcare operations (medical billing, patients record, scheduler)
- Maintain all of the company's computer system including computer hardware, software, network and advance servers
- Oversee medical billing department by utilizing specialized computer software
- Oversee administrative areas and designs, develop and maintain paperless computer system
- Building maintenance repair, electronic records and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with Medicare and Medicaid standards
- Perform other duties as may be assigned

Interested applicants must submit a resume or pick up an application at Saipan Health Clinic in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application or resume will be on Tuesday, June 21, 2016 at 4:00pm. For more information, please call 234-2901 ext. 128.

Maratita wants to remove cap on tourism funds to Rota and Tinian

Rep. Glenn L. Maratita (R-Rota) wants to remove the limitations on the amount of tourism funds that can be distributed to Tinian or Rota.

Maratita has pre-filed a bill, House Bill 19-165, to remove this cap for funds from the Marianas Visitors Authority Trust Fund.

The bill says that current law places a cap on the funds available from the MVA Trust Fund for tourism promotion in the municipalities of Tinian and Rota.

It says the purpose of the amendment is to eliminate the cap so that the funds available for tourism on Tinian and Rota can increases, as the MVA Trust Fund grows as a the result of expanded tourism activity."

The bill crosses out the "not more than" 2 percent or the "$400,000" of funds per fiscal year from the MVA trust fund that is equally divided to Tinian and Rota for charter flight tourism and promotional programs as mandated by current public law. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

Torres vetoes change of expenditure authority for solid waste funds

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has vetoed a bill that would have designated the mayors of Rota and Tinian as the expenditure authority for the solid waste funds for their respective island municipalities. Currently, the secretary of the Department of Public Works is the expenditure authority of the revolving fund.

Torres, in his May 30, 2016 veto message to the Legislature, finds no major legal deficiencies within the Senate Bill 19-60, but says policy considerations compel its disapproval.

Torres

Torres notes the "centralized system for solid waste management" established through current law, in his veto message.

"The current solid waste management statute established a centralized system for solid waste management in the Commonwealth under the expenditure of the DPW secretary…All appropriations for solid waste management, all tipping fees or other solid waste disposal or collection fees collected by DPW's Division of Solid Waste Management, and any funding from federal grants and loans for solid waste management must be deposited into the revolving fund," Torres said.

"The revolving fund is then divided into four sub-accounts reserved to meet financial assurance requirements for permitting facilities within the Commonwealth," he adds.

Torres also noted that the sub-accounts for Rota and Tinian "include fees collected in Saipan."

The sub-accounts for Rota and Tinian are allotted 10 percent of the total funds deposited into the revolving fund.

Torres said not all of the fees within the sub-accounts for Rota and Tinian come exclusively from the fees generated from those two municipalities.

"Indeed, the sub-accounts include funds generated within the third senatorial district and from federal resources," he said.

The monies within the revolving fund are not segregated according to the point of collection by senatorial district and are in fact comingled, he said.

"For that reason, the revolving fund expenditure authority, inclusive of the sub-accounts, should remain with the secretary of the Department of Public Works," Torres said.

The Senate bill, in its findings and purpose statement, says that the expenditure authority should be vested in the Tinian and Rota mayors to "expedite the disbursement of funds, and procurement of services and equipment for each municipality."

It says that the mayors have "firsthand knowledge" of the solid waste needs and requirements of their municipality and should prioritize the sub-account funding for those purposes.

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Saipan Tribune

Man gets 90 days in jail for resisting arrest on Rota

Superior Court Judge Joseph N. Camacho has slapped a 90-day prison term against a 20-year-old man on Rota who resisted police arrest and damaged a police car by kicking it.

» Defendant also kicks police car; has pending domestic violence

Camacho on Friday sentenced Raymond D. Castro Jr. to the maximum of one-year imprisonment, all suspended except 90 days, for resisting arrest.

Castro was given credit of five days of time served.

Camacho said the remainder of the one-year imprisonment may be imposed for any violation of law or rules.

Castro, through counsel assistant public defender Tillman Clark, requested if he could turn himself to the Department of Corrections at a later time.

Camacho denied the request, saying DOC is not a hotel, where he can choose when to check in.

The court marshals were ordered to transport Castro to DOC to start his sentence immediately.

After serving the prison term, Castro will be placed on supervised probation for two years. He was ordered to pay a $100 fine, $25 in court costs, and $200 in probation fee.

The defendant was ordered to pay $4,147.18 at a rate of $50 per month in restitution to Rota Department of Public Safety over the damaged police car.

During the probationary period, Castro is prohibited from consuming any alcoholic beverages. He was required to perform 200 hours of community work service.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, Castro resisted and obstructed being arrested by Police Officer Shaw Dela Cruz Taisacan by being uncooperative and fighting back on Rota on Sept. 13, 2015. The two struggled on the ground and the officer could not place handcuffs on Castro. The officer did not require any medical care.

According to court documents, Castro damaged the police car by kicking its rear driver side door frame, the front fender, and the center console compartment.

Castro also allegedly elbowed Taisacan in the chest and choked the officer.

The officer was trying to arrest Castro for allegedly driving a car recklessly and for consuming beer while under 21 years old.

Castro has a pending domestic violence case against his own father. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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OAG not appealing acquittal of PSS chief; appeal only on important legal issue

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General yesterday clarified that it is not appealing the acquittal of Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan of a traffic case that charged her with three counts of violating the government vehicle provisions of the Commonwealth Code.

Assistant attorney general Matthew Baisley told *Saipan Tribune* that the Commonwealth is appealing a narrow yet important legal issue decided in Sablan's case that may impact future cases.

Baisley said what they are doing is appealing the legal ruling in Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho's order under 6CMC 8101(a), which states the "Commonwealth government shall have the right to appeal only when a written enactment intended to have the force and effect of law has been invalid."

"We will be arguing that the trial court held a statute that the Commonwealth is obligated to enforce to be invalid," he said.

However, the prosecutor pointed out, in no event can the appeal reverse Camacho's finding Sablan not guilty.

Baisley said pursuant to 6CMC 8101(c), the CNMI Supreme Court may not reverse any finding of not guilty, and accordingly the Commonwealth may not appeal a finding of not guilty.

Baisley filed a notice in the Superior Court about the government's appeal to the CNMI Supreme Court.

At a bench trial last April 27, Camacho found Sablan not guilty of the violation of restriction upon use of government vehicles such as driving a government vehicle that does not bear a government license plate, driving an unmarked government vehicle, and operating a government vehicle with tinting on its windows.

In granting Sablan's motion for judgment of acquittal, Camacho found that the prosecution has failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the car driven by Sablan is a government vehicle as defined in the Traffic Code requiring a lease to be 12 months or more.

Camacho ruled that because the lease agreement was expired, the law no longer requires that the subject car be considered a government vehicle.

The judge said because the car was no longer a government vehicle, it was no longer required to display government license plate and markings, and removal of tinting material.

The vehicle in question is a four-door 2011 Honda Accord sedan that is registered to "Joeten Motor Dept." and leased to the Public School System.

The prosecution alleged that the lease of this car began Jan. 1, 2014, and Sablan was stopped by a police sergeant in Navy Hill on Jan. 15, 2015, so the government is legally the owner of the vehicle.

Assistant attorney general Emily Cohen prosecuted the case. Defense attorney Brien Sers Nicholas served as counsel for Sablan.

MARCHING FIRE CADETS FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Fire cadets march back to the main headquarters of the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services in Susupe after the National Peace Officers Memorial Day ceremony held recently at the Department of Public Safety Central Office.

Solution to make up for casino license fee shortfall in fifth year eyed

Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) wants to make sure there are funds to make up for Saipan casino license fee funds that were earlier advanced.

Saipan casino law provided that the initial license fee payment would cover the first and fifth year of license fees.

However, that means there would be no casino license fee in the fifth year, in 2018.

Guerrero has pre-filed a bill, House Bill 19-16, to reserve $5 million of the business gross revenue tax for the years 2016, 2017, and 2018 to "compensate for the absence of the payment of the casino license fee."

The bill mandates that these funds be reserved and placed in a special fund.

The Saipan casino, Best Sunshine International, Ltd., pays out $15 million a year for its license fee as the exclusive casino license holder on Saipan.

Some $10 million of the fee are dedicated to address retiree's pensions, among others purposes. ***(Dennis B. Chan)***

LABOR

From Page 1

vals, or for any other method of payments, which the court deems just.

Witry asked the court to issue any other order necessary to enforce the stipulated settlement and consent judgment.

On Feb. 23, 2016, Labor and HKE entered into a stipulated settlement and consent judgment in labor enforcement section.

In this Feb. 23 judgment, Labor found HKE in violation of Labor laws and required the company to make payments to its employees of $1,321,637.09 in back wages and $416,241.37 in liquidates damages.

HKE completed its payment of the back wages on March 15, 2016.

Witry said HKE did not pay the liquidated damages of $416,241.37 by the due date of March 15, 2016, and the amount remains due and owing.

Witry said the settlement agreement provides that upon the filing of a notice of non-compliance, Labor may exercise its option to treat this order as a final agency action and thereupon, file a direct action in the Superior Court to enforce the judgment.

Witry said Labor filed its notice of non-compliance with the hearing office on April 21, 2016, and served the notice upon HKE on April 2, 2016.

Witry said Labor requires the court's assistance to collect the liquidated damages.

Tinian Labor employee R. Casandra Cabrera-Viches, in her declaration filed in court last April 25, stated that as of the date of the stipulated settlement and consent judgment, Labor was aware of two HKE officers: Christopher Bishop and Sterling Lundgren.

Cabrera-Viches said Labor has learned that neither Bishop nor Lundgren work for HKE any more, and has not determined who the current HKE officers are.

Cabrera-Viches said she served a copy of Labor's notice of non-compliance upon HKE by affixing it to the front door of Tinian Dynasty on April 22, 2016.

Last April, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered HKE to pay $1.4 million to two plane crash survivors to satisfy their settlement agreements.

Manglona said pending further court's order, HKE shall refrain from the sale or transfer of any of its personal property, except in the normal course of business.

In February 2015, HKE attempted to sell Tinian Dynasty to Tinian Entertainment Co. Inc., but the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission rejected the sale.

In June 2015, HKE was found to have violated the Bank Secrecy Act and fined with a $75 million civil penalty.

HKE closed its casino operation at the Dynasty in August 2015, but then continued to operate its hotel.

Labor determined that from August 2015 through January 2016 (except for the pay period from Dec. 12-31, 2015), HKE operated the hotel, but stopped paying wages to all of its hourly and salaried workers.

About 400 workers continued to work at the Dynasty for more than four months without receiving their owed wages.

CNMI

From Page 1

rookie squad to enter the final round.

Three states were hosting the national finals where each team can choose which phase they will be joining. New Orleans hosted the first phase last May 28 to 30 with Washington, D.C. as the second from June 3 to 5, while Chicago is set on June 11 to 13.

Team captain Hyunjin "Harry" Noh, who was also a member of the CNMI national MathCourt squad, said they cherished competing for the first time in the nationals and making it to the championship round.

"It was a great opportunity to compete at the National level. We did not expect to make it this far. I am so proud of our team for doing such a great job. We thank everyone for their prayers and their support, and God for the wisdom and knowledge He gave us," said Noh.

GCA vice principal Susan Pajarillaga, who is also one of the two coaches that accompanied the team, is also thankful for the opportunity to represent the CNMI in the national tournament.

"We are proud to represent the CNMI and the school [GCA]. We did not expect to win second place, we are so thankful to God for giving us the victory to Him belong all glory and honor," added Pajarillaga.

This is the first time that the CNMI got invited to the annual competition in Washington, D.C. with GCA earning the right to represent the Commonwealth after winning the Academic Bowl Challenge against other junior high teams in the CNMI early this year.

Arvin Dayao, Miku Kimura, Elijah Joshua Pajarillaga, and Lan Jabez Victoria are the other members of the team, while Genesis Prieto is the other coach.

The five students topped GCA's school-wide exam for the composition of their squad in the Academic Bowl on Saipan.

SSHS

From Page 1

behalf of all the students and parents, we are very thankful for E-Land's support. Our seniors will have something to use when they graduate next year," said Kintol.

She added the partnership with E-Land, which owns Coral Ocean Golf Resort that is SSHS' next-door neighbor, would also cover the environmental aspect with the students working to keep the beach side clean.

The area is just across Unai Dankulo Beach Park Pavilion beachside near 18th hole of the Coral Ocean golf course.

"We will adopt the area. We will be working in keeping the beach side and the surrounding areas clean. Again, we thank E-Land in granting our request," added Kintol.

Kensington Hotel president and general manager Myung Wook "Matthew" Park, who is also Coral Ocean's GM, said their gesture is E-Land's way of giving back to the community especially to SSHS students, who are the CNMI's future.

"As a part of our [Corporate Social Responsibility] plans on the improvement of the educational facility, E-Land is more than happy to be committed to donate $48,500 for the construction of the stage at SSHS," said Park.

"I believe that the donation of the entertainment stage to SSHS will support our students' success in our community and help them achieve their full potential," said Park, who added that they would give back 10 percent of their two hotels' net profit back to the community.

"But first, we must make profit," Park said that earned laughs from the small group of people who witnessed the event including Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan, and SSHS PTSA president Glenna SP Reyes.

Guerrero said that they are thankful for E-Land answering the call of helping SSHS with the stage. "We always look at ways to have community partner with our schools. The government is challenged to provide financial aid to address the needs of our school. This is a wonderful contribution given by E-Land.

Commissioner Sablan added that yesterday was an historic moment for SSHS with their partnership with E-Land for the stage project. "The stage will be useful for many events of the school. Thank you to E-Land and to SSHS' PTSA officers for making it happen."

Free Comic Book Day on Saturday

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Comic books will again be given away this coming Saturday as the island celebrates Free Comic Book Day. Joeten Kiyu Public Library and Green Flash Comics will again be at the forefront of this annual activity.

The all-day activity begins at JKPL in Susupe from 9:30am to 11:30am before moving to Green Flash Comics at the Joeten Superstore (formerly Price Costco) in San Jose from 12pm to 7pm.

Green Flash Comics joins thousands of comic book stores around the world in celebrating the annual event where more than 4 million comic books are given away, to introduce the people to the wonderful world of comic books.

Green Flash Comics owner Glenn Keaton said the variety of comic books being published today caters to readers of all ages—children, teens, and adults. "They can find something appropriate that will stir their imagination."

Comic books, Mangas, and graphic novels are also a popular form of entertainment. A number of films and several TV series have also been based on comic books like the Avengers and X-Men movie franchises or Arrow and Flash series.

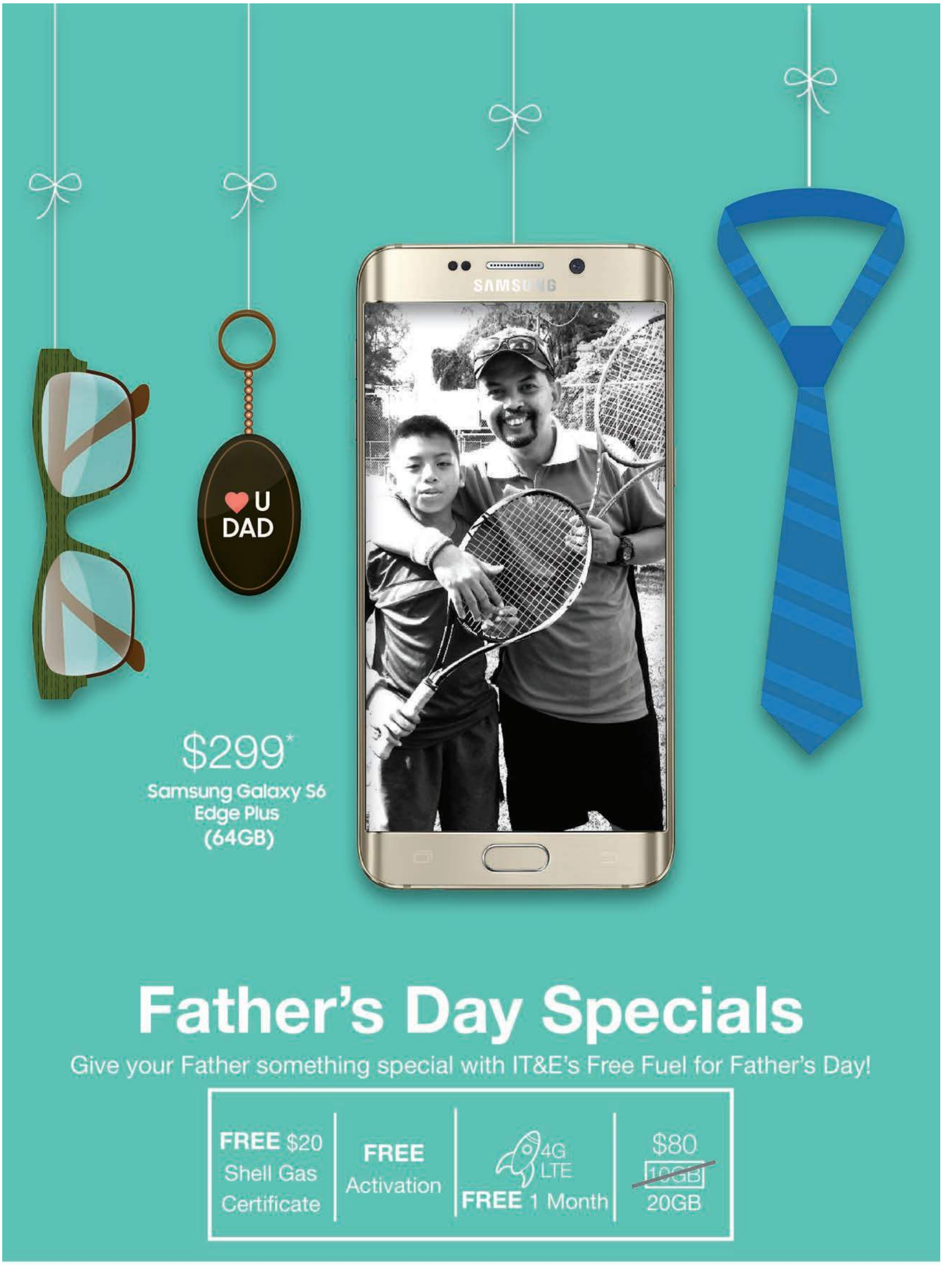
"Comic book and Manga characters have been part of popular culture with many of its characters and stories being adapted into blockbuster movies," Keaton said. "Free Comic Book Day is a big event in the comic book world since it is a way to share those stories that inspire the movies."

"Even if you have never picked up a comic book, stop by [Green Flash Comics] because you never know what you'll end up finding. [Comic books] are fun and a smart pick for readers to dive into, because imagination comes to life with the turn of every page," said Keaton.

A Manga art contest will also be held on the same day based on the following criteria: only one submission per person; art style is not limited to Manga; art style must be creature themed and not humans; artwork must be hand drawn on paper no larger than 8.5 x 11;

Completed original artwork must be submitted to JKPL no later than 5:30pm on June 10; the artist's full name, library card number, village, and school (if applicable) must be printed legibly at the back of his entry.

All original artworks will be returned to the owner.



Japan Consulate receives $10K for Kumamoto victims

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Japanese Consulate received a $10,000 donation from the Saipan World Resort last Thursday with the money part of the local community's ongoing efforts to raise funds to help victims of the Kumamoto earthquake.

The Japanese flag outside the Japanese Consulate Office in Puerto Rico remains at half staff after a 7.0-magnitude quake hit Kumamoto City last month causing massive damage to numerous structures and claiming the lives of 49 people. Modern and historical buildings either caught fire or collapsed.

World Resort local sales, marketing and public relations manager Mike Babauta said the money was the result of their fundraising activity from its Wave Jungle water park last month.

"We did a water park promotion from May 13 to 15 to basically help with the relief efforts. The $5 donation entitles you to an all day water park pass," said Babauta.

"The three-day event exceeded our expectation and we have to limit the number of guests at the water park due to safety. Safety of our hotel guests and customers is always our top priority," he added.

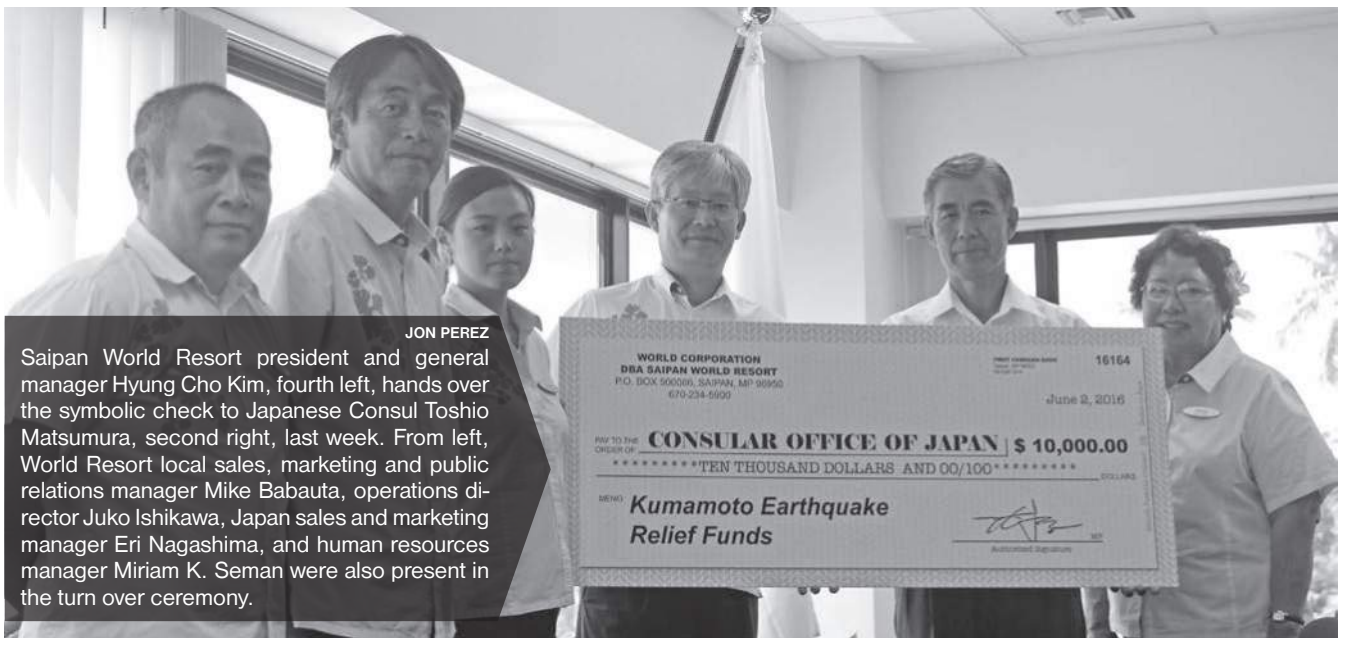
Babauta said the hotel management matched the amount raised during the event coming up with the $10,000, which they handed over the check to the Japanese Consulate last Thursday.

World Resort president and general manager Hyung Cho Kim, operations director Juko Ishikawa, human resources manager Miriam K. Seman, and Japan sales and marketing manager Eri Nagashima joined Babauta in turning over the check to Japanese Consul Toshio Matsumura.

"It was a meaningful event and many people participated. We would like to thank the community for helping out with our fundraising efforts. Their donation would go a long way in helping our friends in Japan," said Kim.

Matsumura thanked the World Resort management for its contribution. "On behalf of the Japanese government, we thank World Resort for the donation. The money will be sent to the Japanese government, which will then hand over it to the local government of Kumamoto City."

The Japanese Society of Northern Marianas also did their own fundraiser held all Thursdays of May at the Street Market and the four Saturdays of the Taste of the Marianas, while Aqua Resort Club also held a brunch fundraising event last May 20 at the Costa Terrace restaurant.



JON PEREZ

Saipan World Resort president and general manager Hyung Cho Kim, fourth left, hands over the symbolic check to Japanese Consul Toshio Matsumura, second right, last week. From left, World Resort local sales, marketing and public relations manager Mike Babauta, operations director Juko Ishikawa, Japan sales and marketing manager Eri Nagashima, and human resources manager Miriam K. Seman were also present in the turn over ceremony.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)
for
Saipan Globe International Group Ltd.
DBA: Saipan Michael Hotel

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map. Saipan Globe International Group Ltd, dba: Saipan Michael Hotel, is requesting to rezone Lots 001 B 42, 008 B 16, 008 B 22/ 23/ 24, 008 B 48, and 008 B 50 in San Roque from "Rural," "Village Residential," and "Village Commercial," zoning districts to "Tourist Resort" zoning districts. The applicant wishes to construct and operate a hotel & resort facility. These lots are located west of Chalan Pale Arnold, north of the former Plumeria Hotel, and south of San Roque Elementary School.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: June 9, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board conference Room, 2nd Flr. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 8, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive
Whispering Palms
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel.: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Administrator: Francisco Castro Sablan

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MRIANA ISALNDS

IN THE MATTER OF ESTATE OF:
PEDRO CAMACHO SABLAN,
Deceased

CIVIL ACTION NO. 14-0189-CV

NOTICE OF HEARING ON THE PETITION FOR FINAL DECREE OF DISTRIBUTION

DATE: June 14, 2016
TIME: 1:30pm
JUDGE: Wiseman

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE PEDRO CAMACHO SABLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Francisco Castro Sablan**, Administrator of the Estate of Pedro Camacho Sablan, has filed with the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands a **Petition for Final Decree of Distribution** in the above captioned matter. The attorney for Administrator is **Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Petition for Final Decree of Distribution has been set for the **14th day of June, 2016 at 1:30p.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Dated this 11th day of May 2016.

Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB16-HSEM-122

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 16, 2016 **TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

"PURCHASE OF PERSONNEL UNIFORMS FOR THE HOMELAND SECURITY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ GERALD J. DELEON GUERRERO
ACTING SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HSEM

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR OF P&S

COMMONWEALTH
ZONING BOARD

AMENDMENT

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda
Thursday, June 09, 2016
5:00 PM, Zoning Board Conference Room
2nd Fl., Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 05/12/16 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings

Conditional Use Application #2016-1779: Marianas Christian Church is proposing to construct and operate a church facility. This use is classified as "Church or place of worship" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on Lot 005 H 29, along Chalan Hagoi in Susupe. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

Rezone Application #2016-1729 (Change of Zoning District): Saipan Globe International Group Ltd. is requesting to rezone Lots 001 B 42, 008 B 16, 008 B 22, 008 B 23, 008 B 24, 008 B 48, and 008 B 50 in San Roque from "Village Residential", "Village Commercial", and "Rural" zoning districts to "Tourist Resort" zoning district to develop a hotel resort. These lots are located on the south and southeast of San Roque Middle School, as well as on the north and northwest of the San Roque fire substation.

Additional lots which may be proposed for rezoning includes all lots situated north of the former Plumeria Resort and south of the Kensington Hotel, and westward of Chalan Pale Arnold.

C. Communications
D. Old Business
1. None

E. New Business
1. Election of Board Officers
2. Office Operations Reports (Permits, Enforcement)
3. Proposed changes to the Zoning Fees

F. Executive (Closed) Session
G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

COMMONWEALTH
ZONING BOARD

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
for Marianas Christian Church

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Marianas Christian Church is proposing to construct and operate a church facility. The use is classified as "Church or place of worship" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This proposal is located on Lot 005 H 29, along Chalan Hagoi in Susupe. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

Date : June 09, 2016
Time : 5:00 pm
Place : Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 08, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.
For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Proposed Amendment to the Official Saipan Zoning Map (Rezone)

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking your comments on the following proposed amendment (rezone) to the Official Saipan Zoning Map to include the following area in San Roque to "Tourist Resort" zoning district:

All lots situated north of the former Plumeria Resort and south of the Kensington Hotel, and westward of Chalan Pale Arnold.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: June 09, 2016
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, June 08, 2016. Please send written comments via e-mail to Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Chairman

NMC Palauan Club collects nearly 1K cases of bottled water

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College's Palauan Club raised close to 1,000 cases of bottled water from the water donation drive they held for two Fridays and one Saturday. They shipped the water last Saturday in cooperation with D&Q and Matson.

Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility Team 1 was one of the largest donors donating more than 400 cases of water. Franchesca Tomokane represented BSI-CSR's Team 1.

"Joeten and Rep. Vinnie Sablan also donated a number of cases. But there were also a lot of donors, nameless individuals who stopped by during our donation drive and dropped one case each," said NMC-PC president Dominic Hideo.

Hideo along with NMC-PC officials and members, NMC external relations director Frankie Eliptico, Palau Consulate staff Aileen Kintol, and D&Q sales manager Marilyn Marron and their personnel were present last Saturday when they loaded all cases inside a Matson container van.

"We are thankful for all who helped us in our water drive. Conditions in Palau have been improving and it has been raining in several areas but still there are still problems with clean drinking water," said Hideo.

"Though there's already rain, it is still not safe for the people to drink water straight from the faucets. This shipment would help the people of Palau on the issue of potable drinking water especially the elderly, the sick, and those who are already bedridden," he added.

Marron said Matson, the biggest ocean freight company in the Pacific region, took care of the shipment fee, while D&Q helped with the equipment and personnel to load the cargo.

"Matson provided the container and waived the shipment fee. The water would be shipped to Palau for free while the Saipan Stevedore also waived their fees," said Marron.

"The Palau Shipping Company would receive the container, which will then be turned over to the Palau Red Cross that would facilitate in the distribution," she added.

Republic of Palau President Tommy Remengasau Jr. has already declared a state of emergency because of the water crisis with the government also scheduling water service to the more than 20,000 residents living and working in the island nation.

Since the drought, water service had been limited to two hours a day, especially in Koror state, which has a population of close to 12,000.

Northern Marianas College-Palauan Club officers and members, join NMC external relations director Frankie Eliptico, second right, Palau Consulate staff Aileen Kintol, right, and D&Q sales manager Marilyn Marron, sitting center, for a group photo before another batch of donated cases of bottled water was loaded in a container.

JON PEREZ

Energy Division to host Rota Energy Awareness Campaign

The Department of Public Works, through the Energy Division Office, will be hosting the 2016 Rota Energy Awareness Campaign on Saturday, June 25, at the Rota Mayor's Office.

This event will provide the residential community tips on how to conserve energy at homes and how to save money using efficient products that carry the Energy Star label and educate the community on the importance of energy conservation in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The Energy Division thru its Energy, Education, Efficiency and Conservation Program efforts will be distributing reusable shopping bags with Home Energy Savings Kits and raffle of either a 16" Pedestal Fan or Portable Stove for each attendee.

The schedule of events is as follow:

Saturday, June 25, 2016

- 9am to 10am: Sign In/ Registration
- 10am to 11:30am: Presentation

Due to limited seating for event, interested individuals must pre-register with the CNMI Energy Division office to confirm seating beginning, Tuesday, June 7, from 7:30am to 11:30am and from 12:30pm to 4:30pm, Monday to Friday, except weekends and holidays.

Registrations end on Thursday, June 23, 2016 or when registration has been filled. Pre-registered individuals with confirmed seats must present a valid government-issued identification (ID) with photo and proof of active utility account and most current utility bill information in his/ her name. Failure to provide such information will be subject to removal of individual's name from the pre-registration list and denied participation and entry into the event.

Funding opportunity for this project was possible through a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Energy-State Energy Program (SEP). ***(PR)***

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- 15,000 miles with $3,000 spent within the first 3 months of account opening

$0 Intro annual fee for the first year ($45 thereafter)
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1x miles per $1 spent on qualifying purchases

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1) Miles accrued, awards, and benefits issued are subject to change and are subject to the rules of the United MileagePlus program, including without limitation the Premier® program (the "MileagePlus Program"), which are expressly incorporated herein. Please allow 6-8 weeks after completed qualifying activity for miles to post to your account. United may change the MileagePlus Program including, but not limited to, rules, regulations, travel awards and special offers or terminate the MileagePlus Program at any time and without notice. United and its subsidiaries, affiliates and agents are not responsible for any products or services of other participating companies and partners. Taxes and fees related to award travel are the responsibility of the member. Bonus award miles, award miles and any other miles earned through non-flight activity do not count toward qualification for Premier status unless expressly stated otherwise. The accumulation of mileage or Premier status or any other status does not entitle members to any vested rights with respect to the MileagePlus Program. MileagePlus Program participation may not be permitted in some countries. All calculations made in connection with the MileagePlus Program, including without limitation with respect to the accumulation of mileage and the satisfaction of the qualification requirements for Premier status, will be made by United Airlines and MileagePlus in their discretion and such calculations will be considered final. Information in this communication that relates to the MileagePlus Program does not purport to be complete or comprehensive and may not include all of the information that a member may believe is important, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to all of the information on the united.com website and the MileagePlus Program rules. United and MileagePlus are registered service marks. For complete details about the MileagePlus Program, go to www.united.com.

2) Subject to credit approval. Apply for the United MileagePlus Business Credit Card by 06/30/16 and, if approved, receive 10,000 bonus miles at account opening and 15,000 bonus miles if you spend $3,000 in purchases within the first 3 months after your account is opened. Also, you'll earn 2 miles per $1 spent on United ticket purchases and 1 mile per $1 spent on all other qualifying purchases. $0 introductory annual fee for the first year after account opening; thereafter, the annual fee is $45. Additional limitations, terms and conditions apply. See the United MileagePlus Credit Card Agreement for more information.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 16-030

Opening Date: Tuesday, June 07, 2016
Closing Date: Monday, June 20, 2016

Trades Technician: Lineperson

Duties: Work under the direct supervision of the Power Division Manager or his/her designee. Performs maintenance, operations, installations and/or repairs in assigned area of responsibility; provides technical guidance regarding assigned functions; and ensures quality service levels in accordance with proper procedures. Provides assistance in monitoring regulatory compliance. Operates specialized and heavy equipment; performs maintenance activities and skilled repairs to equipment, infrastructure and/or other items of assigned area of responsibility. Identifies issues and operational concerns; performs inspections; provides troubleshooting; evaluates corrective measures or options; recommends and implements solutions and corrective actions. Receives customer inquiries and trouble calls; responds to requests and provides information or status updates. Monitors inventory and supplies; maintains required supply levels; initiates requests for the replenishment of materials and supplies; cleans, organizes and maintains work and supply areas. Takes readings of equipment; maintains records, logs, orders and data; and prepares reports. To install, repair and maintain overhead and underground electrical power lines and auxiliary equipment. Strings, splices, transfers and sags wire in energized or de-energized circuits and connects wires and transformers as specified or directed. Shortens or lengthens lines by adding or removing wire, using a variety of types of splices, connectors, sleeves or clamps. Regularly works above ground on poles or steel towers using climbers and safety belt or operating man lift equipment, boom truck or other specialized equipment. Routes or re-routes power lines over, under or around existing lines and structures, regularly working above, on, or in close proximity to energized lines. Selects and uses a variety of "hot line" tools and makes use of rubber gloves, line hoses, mechanical jumpers, fiber guards, blankets and other protective devices as specified. Works on all voltages as required throughout the system. Installs and removes transformers, including primary and secondary current transformers and self-contained meters; cut-outs, disconnecting switches, circuit breakers and other overhead line, rigging block and tackle where necessary or working with ground crew and winch to raise or lower equipment. May install street and area lights, working with primary and secondary voltages. May change transformer locations on maps. Performs line switching or sectionalizing as directed. Performs emergency repairs, phases and connects circuits under load; performs load checks and balances feeders as required. Inspects lines, poles and equipment for signs of damage or wear and reports deficiencies. Assists in carrying poles, digging holes, piking and guying poles and other such operations involved in the setting or replacing of poles; may erect steel towers. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION(S) : Power Transmission & Distribution, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : $20,826.00 per annum to $28,115.00 per annum.
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.
POSITION(S) : One (1).

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS and 4 years of experience related to area of assignment. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Principles, practices and procedures of assigned service area; Customer service principles; Mathematical concepts; Inventory maintenance practices; Inspection procedures; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skill in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Performing skilled maintenance, operations and repair work in assigned area; Reviewing quality levels and providing technical guidance in assigned area; Operating specialized and heavy equipment; Monitoring equipment and making adjustments; Performing inspections and identifying issues; Troubleshooting issues and recommending or implementing solutions; Receiving requests and trouble calls and providing assistance; Monitoring inventory and supplies; Initiating supply requests; Taking equipment readings and maintaining reading data; Preparing and updating activity logs and status reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested AND are subject to pre-employment drug testing.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

SSHS' NA program coordinator post still open

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Nursing Assistant Program coordinator at Saipan Southern High School is still open, according to principal Martha Kintol. The position became vacant after Leticia Reyes resigned after last month's Pinning and Path of Light Ceremony of the program's Cohort 6.

Cohort 6 was the last class that Reyes handled as she is now working in a private health clinic on Saipan. The former Commonwealth Health Center nursing director started the program together with various partners in 2009.

Kintol said that a job vacancy announcement remains for the position and she's encouraging those who are interested to apply. The program is now in Cohort 7, which helped in organizing Cohort 6's Pinning and Light Ceremony at the World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

The job vacancy announcement is on the website of the Public School System at cnmipss.org. The PSS would screen and interview all applicants for the career and technical education instructor, NA program coordinator.

Reyes

"We're still in the process of looking for Nurse Letty's [Reyes] replacement. Those who are interested should submit their application and credentials at PSS," said Kintol in a telephone interview with the *Saipan Tribune*.

"All applicants must comply with tall the requirements and will undergo the screening process. PSS would then screen the qualifications of all applicants and interview them," added Kintol.

Reyes, during last month's ceremony, told *Saipan Tribune* that it is with a heavy heart that she leaves the program that she has started but said to those who had graduated and Cohort 7 to rise up to every challenge.

She has also encouraged those who have completed the program and Cohort 7 to pursue a nursing degree since it has been the program's aim to produce local nurses that would work and take care of the sick and elderly in the CNMI.

"We thought of the idea of starting it at an early level. Introduce a program for high school students. We started from scratch. There are times that I don't know if what we're doing was right. It was all trial and error," said Reyes in an earlier interview.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Northern Marianas College, the Public School System, and the Workforce Investment Agency were their partners with SSHS as the learning institution for the pilot program.

The incoming CET instructor for the NA program will supervise Cohort 7 headed by president Tommy Son.

Stephen Barro, Charmaine Ebilane, Natalia Ann Javier, Haram Lee, Chrystalle Joie Lloren, Stephanie Lumbad, Kelly Marie Maligsa, Vynzent Manacop, Charlei Micha McEntee, Nathaniel Montano, Daryll Glenn Navarro, Noshin Omar, JD Faye Pascua, Sharon Paek, Czarinna Posadas, Ezekiel Rafanan, Rolliem Relevante, Tins Relevante, Cristina Mae Ruiz, Athalana Sablan, Ivan Seo, Brian Urena, and Jia Jin Xu are the Cohort 7 students.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 16-027

Opening Date: Wednesday, June 01, 2016
Closing Date: Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Human Resources Generalist
(IT Specialist)

DUTIES: Under the direct supervision of the Human Resources Manager or his/her designee. Gathers and analyzes pertinent employee information. Inputs data into system in a timely matter monitors and maintain information stored in data system and update data whenever it is needed. Generates all daily reports in a timely matter, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual reports to the immediate HR manager. Maintains and updates electronic and paper documents for the purpose of public information, trainings, meetings, case management and client information to the HR Manager. Responsible for keeping and organizing of filing system of all incoming and outgoing correspondences. Compiles and assist HR Manager in preparation and finalization of letters, memos and reports for each division. Prepares request for personnel actions for signature of approving authority. Assists and/or participates in the preparation of applications and other documents and forms. Provides technical, analysis, research assistance of computer activities, problems, and issues. Familiarize and be able to maintains electronic technology provided by the department such as printers, fax, scanners, etc.. Must be able to troubleshoot certain issues pertaining to electronics. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : $37,756.00 to $50,970.00 per annum.
(Salary is negotiable based on qualification and experience.)
POSITIONS : One (1).
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Education: Bachelor's degree in Information Technology or directly related field and 4 years of general professional human resource-related experience; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job such as those listed above. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Human Resource principles and practices; Program administration principles; Customer service principles; Mathematical concepts; Research methods; Database and records management principles; Modern office technology. Skill In: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Administering and monitoring programs, policies and processes; Coordinating the implementation of human resource services; Researching and analyzing program-related data and resource information; Providing customer service; Interpreting policies and providing relevant information and guidance; Prioritizing work in order to meet time-sensitive program deadlines; Tracking and auditing data, forms, records and documentation; Preparing reports, correspondence, and program support materials; Updating and maintaining information systems and confidential records; Coordinating and assisting with projects; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.. Subject to a pre-employment drug screening.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 16-029

Opening Date: Tuesday, June 07, 2016
Closing Date: Monday, June 20, 2016

Trades Technician
(Electric Meter Technician)

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Power Division Manager or his/her designee. Performs maintenance, operations, installations and/or repairs in assigned area of responsibility; provides technical guidance regarding assigned functions; and ensures quality service levels in accordance with proper procedures. Provides assistance in monitoring regulatory compliance. Operates specialized and heavy equipment; performs maintenance activities and skilled repairs to equipment, infrastructure and/or other items of assigned area of responsibility. Identifies issues and operational concerns; performs inspections; provides troubleshooting; evaluates corrective measures or options; recommends and implements solutions and corrective actions. Receives customer inquiries and trouble calls; responds to requests and provides information or status updates. Monitors inventory and supplies; maintains required supply levels; initiates requests for the replenishment of materials and supplies; cleans, organizes and maintains work and supply areas. Takes readings of equipment; maintains records, logs, orders and data; and prepares reports. Operating, starting, stopping, synchronizing, and/or regulating power and reactive load on generators; Operating feeder circuit breakers during routine and emergency conditions; Testing and repairing transformers; Monitoring fuel and lubrication oil levels, input/output calculations, and refill requests; Issuing and ordering of parts, tools, chemicals and other supplies; Performing reconditioning of used parts; Performing alignment of pump and motors at auxiliary sites; Welding, cutting, grinding and fabricating materials; Calculating fuels supply and usage and preparing for fuel transfer. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

LOCATION : Power: Transmission & Distribution, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY : $20,826.00 per annum to $28,115.00 per annum.
CONTRACT : Not Contracted.
POSITION(S) : Four (4)

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS and 4 years of experience related to area of assignment. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Principles, practices and procedures of assigned service area; Customer service principles; Mathematical concepts; Inventory maintenance practices; Inspection procedures; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Performing skilled maintenance, operations and repair work in assigned area; Reviewing quality levels and providing technical guidance in assigned area; Operating specialized and heavy equipment; Monitoring equipment and making adjustments; Performing inspections and identifying issues; Troubleshooting issues and recommending or implementing solutions; Receiving requests and trouble calls and providing assistance; Monitoring inventory and supplies; Initiating supply requests; Taking equipment readings and maintaining reading data; Preparing and updating activity logs and status reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ou Yuan "Owen" Zhi, who recently graduated from Agape Christian School, has committed to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Saipan student commits to West Point

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
tamanglona@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Ou Yuan "Owen" Zhi, who recently graduated from Agape Christian School. has committed to the United States Military Academy at West Point, which only accepts 9.5 percent of applicants.

Zhi told *Saipan Tribune* that he learned of the news in April, after completing a program as a high school senior at the Air Force Academy.

"Congressman Kilili Sablan called me and told me the good news," he added.

When asked how he felt upon receiving the news, Zhi said: "I am truly thankful for those who helped me this far. Give the highest credit to the love and support from my family, school, teachers, my classmates, and friends."

In his high school career, Zhi remained active in speech and debate, math, and sports competitions. He also spent many hours volunteering at the American Memorial Park and Chinese Association of Saipan.

He added, "Our school's caring rules and extracurricular activities mold our students character both physically and mentally, which created versatility in students."

In preparation for the rigorous coursework at West Point, Zhi explained that he will train for his basic training in June, review for academic placement tests, and contact alumni to learn more.

Zhi noted, "I feel great to serve the others; to give is better than to receive. I want to learn in college without considering the financial difficulties."

According to their website, the military academy is "an exceptional honor reserved for our nation's most promising students"

Chamber office closed this morning

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be closed Tuesday morning, June 7, while the organization hosts the Labor Visa Symposium at Pacific Islands Club (Charley's Cabaret). The office closed at 5pm yesterday and will reopen at 1pm today. ***(PR)***

Important SSHS PTSA meeting on June 9

The Saipan Southern High School PTSA will hold a special meeting and fifth day general membership meeting on Thursday, June 9, 2016, beginning at 5:45pm at the Saipan Southern High School cafeteria.

This meeting is in compliance with Article V, Section 3 of the SSHS PTSA Bylaws. The purpose of this meeting is to authorize the SSHS PTSA officers to enter into a contract with the contractor for the construction of a stage facility during the summer break to allow for the timely completion of the project and to prepare the facility for operation before the beginning of School Year 2016-2017.

This action is in accordance with Article VIII, Section 1 of the SSHS PTSA Bylaws. Your attendance at this special meeting is very important in ensuring that the stage facility project is completed as soon as possible. ***(PR)***

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Hotel Operations

Chief Concierge	1
Concierge Attendant	3
Front Office Manager	1
Front Office Assistant Manager	2
Front Office Duty Manager - VIP	3
Front Office Duty Manager - Resort	3
Front Office Supervisor - VIP	3
Front Office Supervisor - Resort	3
Front Office Agent - VIP	8
Front Office Agent - Resort	8
Manager - Guest Services Center	1
Manager - Reservation	1
Manager - Horticulture/Floral	1
Floral Designer	1
Floral Processor	3
Gardener	7
Manager - Recreation	1
Manager - Spa	1
Executive Housekeeper	1
Assistant Executive Housekeeper	1
Manager - Public Area	3
Manager - Laundry	1
Manager - Wardrobe	1
Training Manager	1

Finance

Gaming Auditor	6

Food & Beverage

Training Manager	1
Hygiene Manager	1
Restaurant Manager - Employee Dining	1
Restaurant Manager - Northern Chinese Restaurant	1
Restaurant Manager - Cantonese Restaurant	1
Restaurant Manager - Buffet & All Day Casual Dining	1
Restaurant Manager - French Restaurant	1
Restaurant Manager - Grand Lobby Bar	1
Bar Manager	5
Bar Supervisor	5
Bar Server	7
Assistant Restaurant Manager - Chinese	10
Assistant Restaurant Manager - Western	10
VIP F&B Assistant Manager	10
Restaurant Supervisor - Chinese	10
Restaurant Supervisor - Western	10
VIP F&B Supervisor	10
Assistant Manager of Wine Sommelier	2
Bartender	50
Server I	25
Server II	25
Chef de Cuisine - Pastry	1
Chef de Cuisine - Beach Club	1
Chef de Cuisine - Butcher & Live Fish	1
Chef de Cuisine - Cold Kitchen	1
Chef de Cuisine - Buffet & All Day Casual Dining	1
Steward Manager	1

Legal & Compliance

Head of Compliance	1

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The French press: Squeezed by labor strife, glum economy and wars

France (and anyone who travels there) is subject to a typically French duel between its Socialist government, which depends on the unions to remain in office, and the unions themselves. They are expressing themselves, as is their wont, through strikes, notably transport strikes.

This is not new, but that fact does not diminish the misery for the French population, subject to cuts in service in various essential areas. The discomfort produced by the strikes comes on top of the increased security measures imposed — understandably — by the French government in the wake of the terrorist attacks Paris has suffered.

The issues that are producing the strife include, notably, a government move to raise the pension eligibility age and to modify France's 35-hour-per-week working week. The government's professed desire is to make France's production more competitive, in the process lowering its 10 percent unemployment rate. The unions' leadership is absolutely obliged to try to preserve juicy conditions for its workers. All French workers benefit from what the 8 percent in unions are able to achieve.

An end result of the conflict is that, as the French population comes to feel increasingly harassed by the denials of service, it blames the government, lowering the already sub-20 percent popularity ratings of President Francois Hollande and his prime minister, Manuel Valls. Elections are scheduled for next April; the Socialists will be in no hurry to move them up.

In the meantime, the French government is also being squeezed hard, apart from by the sagging economy, by its various overseas military commitments, besides the draw on its forces for security needs at home. It continues to maintain its interests in Africa by judicious postings of troops to the Central African Republic, Djibouti, Mali and elsewhere. The boots on the ground and the aircraft involved in these deployments are expensive. Since the French president does not need legislative approval of these forays, he is faced with less accountability, but the political vulnerability they constitute remains.

French enthusiasm for NATO, always relatively tepid, and particularly for U.S. demands that NATO's members increase commitments and contributions to actions in Eastern Europe, is lowered by the government's situation. It is unlikely to strengthen as the July 8-9 NATO summit in Warsaw approaches.

Washington will need to bear in mind the French government's political situation as it tries to push France further out into the water in the U.S. face-off with Russia.

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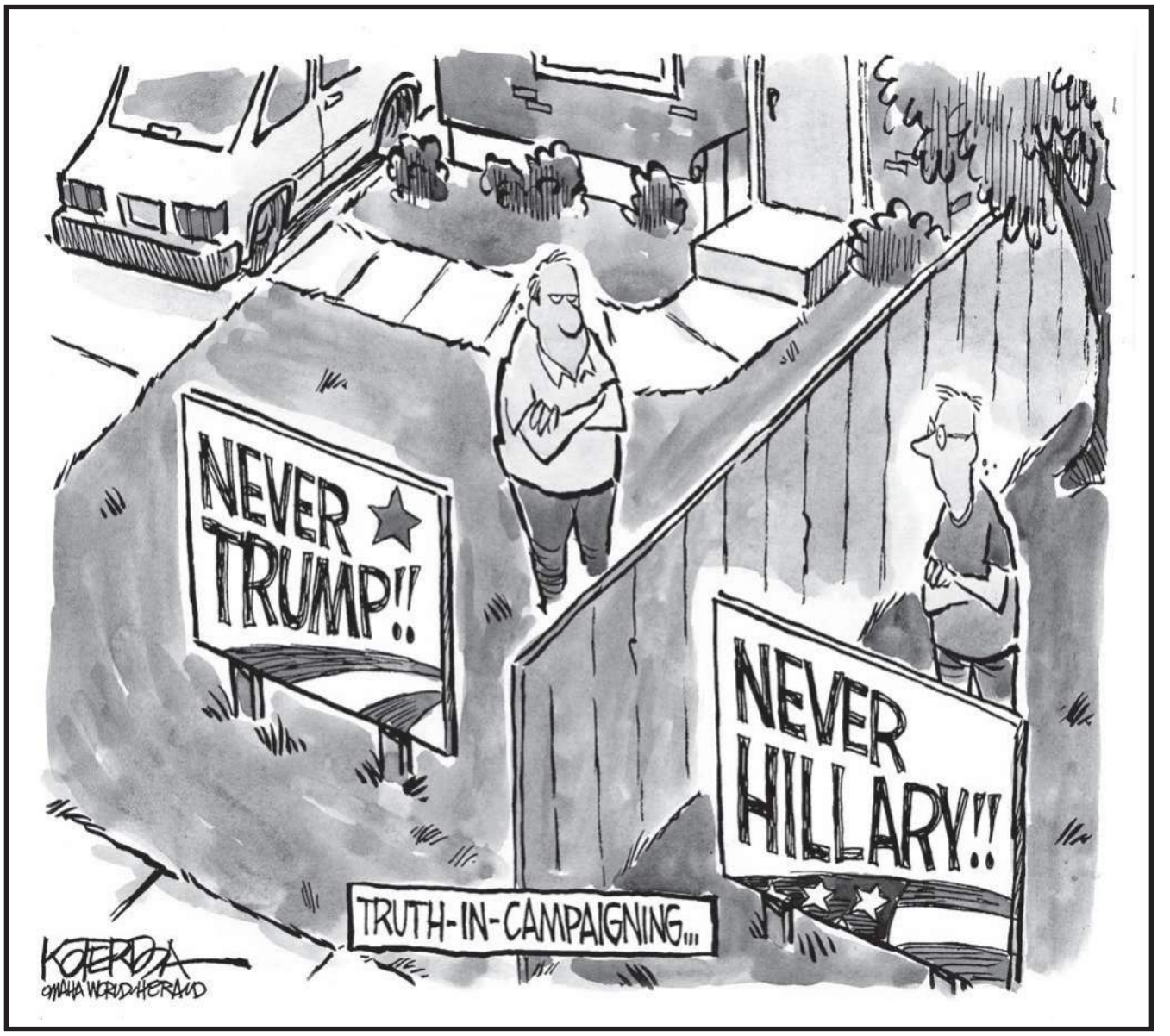
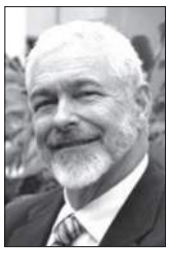


Reaching the CW cap: Is the sky really falling?

One day while Chicken Little was walking in the woods an acorn falls from a tree, and hits the top of her little head. My, oh, my, the sky is falling. I must run and tell the lion about it,—says Chicken Little and begins to run. **—Traditional folk tale, http://www.worldstory.net/en/stories/chicken_little.html**

IMMIGRATION FORUM



By MAYA KARA and BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 25 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

Over the last several weeks, we have fielded a large number of CW workers panicking about their status, and quite a few employers worried about their employees and their businesses. Some of their fears are justified, and many are not. All of the concerns were triggered by the announcement, made by USCIS on May 20, 2016, that the Fiscal Year 2016 cap for CW-1 permits has been reached and no new applications would be accepted or processed for FY 2016.

What does the CW cap mean?

The cap was established after the passage of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 ("CNRA"), which became effective with respect to the CNMI on Nov. 28, 2009. The CNRA authorized the U.S. Secretary of Labor to authorize a certain number of CW-1 permits to be issued of foreign workers in the CNMI. The number is allocated per the federal fiscal year which starts on each Oct. 1 and ends on each Sept. 30. The following are the CW caps since the program was initiated:

FY 2011 22,417
FY 2012 22,416
FY 2013 15,000
FY 2014 14,000
FY 2015 13,990
FY 2016 12,999
FY 2017 undetermined

From FY 2011 though the end of FY 2015, the number of CW permits issued did not exceed the cap. In 2016, the number of applications skyrocketed, due, we assume, to the massive influx of new foreign investment and casino and resort construction projects in the CNMI. According to USCIS, the number of permits issued, plus the probable number of applications in process, reached the cap on May 5, 2016. Applications received by the agency after that date, for employment commencing on or before September 30, 2016, will be rejected and returned.

CW-2 permits, which are available for non-working foreign spouses and children under 18, are not counted toward the cap, but cannot be approved unless there is a valid CW-1 permit for the working spouse or parent.

Who is affected by the cap?

The number of workers who will be affected by the closing of the cap appears to be relatively small when compared to the total authorized number of CW-1 workers. The issue of which year's cap applied to which worker is determined by the employment start date. This applies regardless whether the application is for new employment or continued employment ("extension of stay").

1. If the employment start date is on or before Sept. 30, 2016, but the employer filed the CW petition prior to May 5, 2016, the worker is under the 2016 cap and the petition will processed by USCIC. Please remember that "filed" means received by USCIS; not the date of mailing.

2. If the employment start date is on or before Sept. 30, 2016, and the employer filed the CW petition after May 5, 2016, the worker is under the 2016 cap and the petition, with all filing fees, will be returned to the petitioning employer. This is the group that is most affected by the closing of the quota set by the cap. We will refer to this group as "second category" in the rest of

See REACHING on Page 11

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Clinton shows she's ready to take on Trump

No one can deny Hillary Clinton brings plenty of baggage to the presidential race. People believe she is untrustworthy. She is secretive. She is not a dynamic campaigner. All true.

But Hillary Clinton showed this week she will do one thing that Donald Trump's wimpy opponents for the Republican nomination would not do.

She will fight back. And she'll do it aggressively. Good for her.

Trump's rivals wouldn't lay a glove on him, for fear of Trump attacking back. They also didn't want to lose his brain-dead followers.

Hillary Clinton won't worry about that.

If you have bought the Trump Kool-Aid, you aren't going to be swayed by Clinton. She knows that.

So this week she just blistered Trump, calling him "temperamentally unfit" to be president.

She talked about his "bizarre rants, personal feuds and outright lies."

And then she said this: "It's not hard to imagine Donald Trump leading us to war just because someone got under his very thin skin."

Bravo.

If you saw Trump's disgusting displays recently, where he tried to explain donations to the military and then went ballistic criticizing reporters for doing their job and asking tough questions, you know Hillary Clinton is correct.

Trump's response is just to tweet out mindless drivel, which his robotic followers eat up.

By GARY STEIN
Sun Sentinel

Gary Stein is a columnist for the Sun Sentinel*. Readers may email him at gstein@sunsentinel.com*

So don't expect Hillary to just sit back and let Trump attack and spread his vitriol this campaign. She'll attack him back harder.

And she has facts to back up what she says. Maybe Trump should try that some time.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our workforce crisis

So once again, we have a crisis with our workforce, now what's the solution? Beg for another extension? Is this all we can do? Put the problem off for someone else to handle move? How about making demands before we start making concessions? The U.S. is but our political partner and because it took control of our immigration without any courtesy, we need to demand that back as our first option.

The 902 talks should focus at resolution of all our issues and problems with the U.S. through a total dissection of our Covenant and re-negotiation of those terms and conditions, which need to be updated preferably in our favor. The Covenant did provide for revisit after its first 25 years but aside from enjoying U.S. citizenship and federal dollars, we did nothing. Forty years later, we have a crisis?

So what does immigration control have to do with our workforce? Everything. Immigration has a direct impact on our workforce, which has a direct impact on our economy, which has a direct impact on our lives now and in the future as well as those of our children and generations to come. Still don't get it?

When the U.S. took over our immigration it assumed total control over who comes into and stay in the CNMI including our tourists, investors, and our nonresident workers. These people contribute to our economy through taxes, goods and services, purchases, utilities, housing rentals, hospital, insurance, the list goes on but you get the point. What happens when they go? When more than half of our population leaves?

For starters, the departure of our no-resident workers not re-classed into H2 and their families reduces the number of taxpayers, shoppers, workers who perform the construction, the menial jobs, and so on, which reduces the amount of revenue collected by both the private sector and the government. Our major developments will shut down leaving many projects dangling, unfinished. For those that will be operating in 2018, they will start feeling the pain when their staff leave starting in January 2019.

Businesses will be under-staffed and coupled with reduced sales and services, may close. Those in the tourism industry will feel the impact as well. Our workforce crisis involves us all. For once, we need to set aside our differences, stop the bigotry and move forward as one community so we can stand a chance at survival.

Should we fail, the composite of our communities' shortcomings will spell disaster for us all. Our version of doomsday, hell on earth, whatever term you want to call it will begin and we shall bear witness to massive numbers of repossessions, foreclosures and bankruptcies. Even the government, unable to collect enough revenue to continue operations and faced with more than a billion dollars in debt it can never pay, will be forced to reduce its staff and its services and maybe even resort to bankruptcy. CUC and CHC will flounder and force us to contend with regular blackouts and sick people dying needlessly.

Torres and crew need to do their absolute best in the 902 or be remembered as the one who failed the worst. So, which option is best?

Rudy M. Sablan
Garapan

REACHING

From Page 10

this article.

3. If the employment start date is on or after Oct. 1, 2016, the worker is counted toward the 2017 cap. The trick here will be timing. We anticipate that the 2017 cap will be reached much sooner than was the case with the 2016 cap. We are advising our employer clients to file petitions for their workers as soon as possible. Petitions can be filed as long as "six months"—that means "180 days" in USCIS-speak—in advance of the employment start date. We advise our employer clients to post the JVAs as soon as possible on the CNMI Labor Website and file for renewed or new employment as close as possible to 180 days in advance of the start date. (By our count, the first day on which petitions can be filed for workers whose CW-1s expire on Dec. 31 is July 5. As of June 6, petitions can be filed for employees whose term of employment starts on or before December 3.)

What to do is your permit expires before Oct. 1, 2016 and your employer didn't manage to file your petition prior to May 5, 2016?

Unfortunately, the options for workers in this second category are very limited.

■ You can work until the expiration date of your current permit.

■ You will need to leave the CNMI within 10 days after your expiration. This includes any CW-2 spouses or children whose status is derived from yours. After that, you begin to accumulate what immigration lawyers call "bad time," discussed below, which counts toward possible application of the three-year and 10-year bars to re-entering the U.S.

■ You can and should encourage your employer to submit an application for you as soon as possible. Please make sure that your employer does not just resubmit the application that was rejected. There will need to be a new JVA, with a start date on or after Oct. 1, 2016. There are also some parts of the petition that will need to be answered differently than for a petition to extend status.

■ Once you return to your home country, you will need to go through consular processing to obtain a CW visa to return to the CNMI. This means that once USCIS approves the petition, you—the worker and any dependents—will need to file an online form, DS-160 for each person, to pay the nonimmigrant visa fee that will be required, and to obtain an appointment at the appropriate U.S. consulate.

What will not work

1. Parole: We are informed that at least one HR manager on island has advised employees who are in the second category, above, to apply for Parole In Place so that they can remain on island until their next employment period commences. Unfortunately this will not work. Parole in Place is available only to persons who have never been admitted to the United States. A CW permit is deemed an admission to the United States. A person who has been admitted to the United States is ineligible for Parole in Place, including parents and spouses of U.S citizens.

2. Changing to CW-2 status: We have received several inquiries on whether a second category worker can temporarily switch to CW-2 status in order not to have to depart the CNMI within 10 days after permit expiration. Unfortunately, this will not work either. First of all, the CW-1 worker from whose status you would seek to derive your CW-2 status has to be your spouse; it cannot be your parent or child. Second of all, when you apply for CW-2, you are applying for a non-immigrant status. If you then apply for an employment-based CW-1, you are applying for a second non-immigrant status. Except in rare circumstances you cannot have two pending non-immigrant applications; the second application will wipe out the first. Since we do not know how fast your CW-2 application will be processed, it is likely that your CW-1 application will wipe out the CW-2 application before the CW-2 is granted. The result is that you have wasted time and money and will not get the result you want. Furthermore, since a pending parole application does not give you legal status, you may have accumulated "bad time." More on that below.

3- and 10-year bars

The three and ten year bars are a form of penalty for over-stayers. Aliens who overstay their permits are technically subject to removal (a polite term for deportation). Removal, however, is expensive for the government, and is exercised on a discretionary basis. In the case of simple over-stayers, without unlawful entry into the U.S., or subsequent criminal conduct, removal is not a priority. In other words, if you simply overstay your permit expiration, you are unlikely to be deported. There are other consequences, however, that kick in when you choose or need to travel outside the CNMI. If you overstay your permit by at least 180 days, and then exit the USA, you will not be permitted to return for three years. If you overstay your permit by at least one year, and exit the USA, you will not be permitted to return for 10 years. There are waivers available for the bars, but that is nor useful to our discussion here.

Other visa options

There may be other visa options available to some CW-1 workers, although not all. We regularly explore other options with both employers and employees, but that is too complicated a topic for today's column.

To sum up: the sky is not falling; not yet, anyway. Category two workers are unfortunately trapped at the intersection of politics, law and economics. We can only hope that employers act responsibly and humanely with respect to their affected employees. Everyone needs to act with common sense, with careful consideration of all options, and with attention to the calendar.

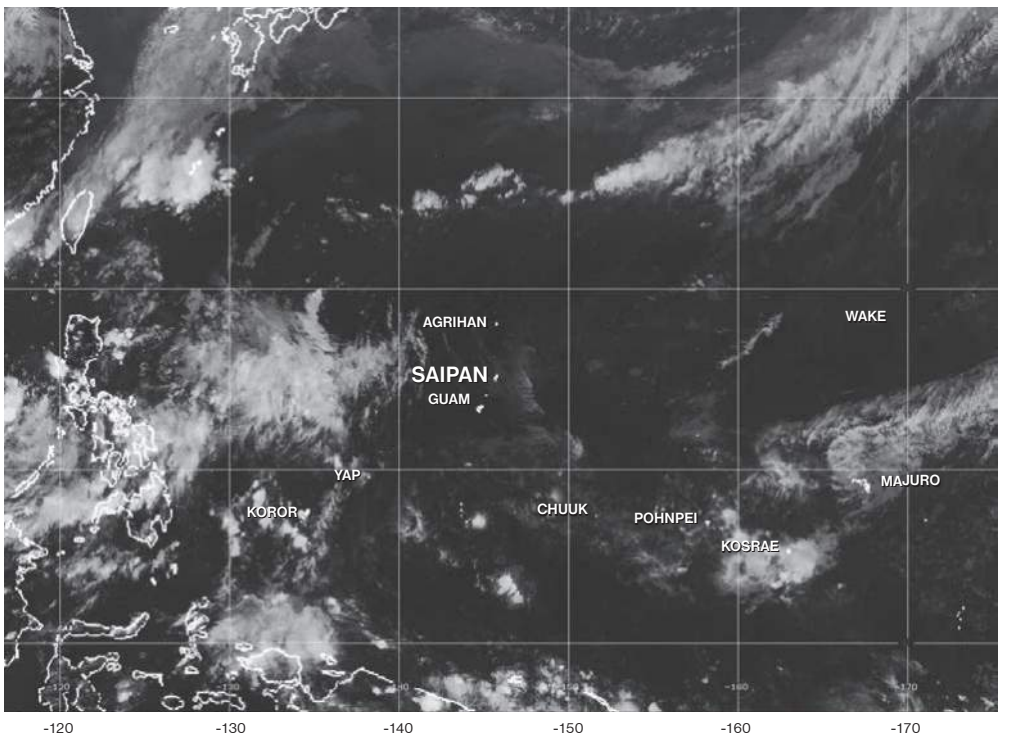
The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:56 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level trough reaches northward from south of Koror at EQ135E through a low centered west of the Northern Mariana islands at 18N136E to beyond 25N at 136E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen near the low west of a line from 23N131E to 14N140E and also near the trough south of a line from 3N130E to 3N137E. Another upper-level low centered north of Pohnpei at 11N159E is enhancing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near a tradewind disturbance over Pohnpei and Kosrae within 60 miles of a line from 7N156E to 7N159E to 4N161E to 5N164E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲91	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼80

Around the Globe

Auckland	Windy	▲62	▼56
Beijing	Rain	▲76	▼60
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼80
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼72
London	Showers	▲77	▼55
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲58	▼50
Miami	Cloudy	▲88	▼79
New York	Sunny	▲87	▼69
Osaka	Rain	▲76	▼68
Paris	Thunderstorms	▲75	▼61
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼63
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼64
Salem	Sunny	▲92	▼58
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼53
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼63
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲76	▼67
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼69

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:19 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:11 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
4:33 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.6 Feet
11:33 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:39 AM	8:49 PM
Wednesday	8:38 AM	9:42 PM
Thursday	9:34 AM	10:31 PM
Friday	10:28 AM	11:16 PM
Saturday	11:19 AM	11:57 PM

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2924/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
UA2922/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA2922/193	8:40am	10:35pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA2921/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA2921/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA2921/191	1:30pm	8:55am+1	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA2920/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR
UA2920/191	2:20pm	8:55am+1	2, 6 via GUM
UA2928/191	6:05pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2926/191	9:50pm	8:55am+1	1, 2, 5, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA2922/159	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA2921/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA2920/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/2925	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2920	9:45pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM-Rota
UA192/2927	9:45pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA192/2929	9:45pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/2925	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2920	11:30pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA184/2927	11:30pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/2929	11:30pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA116/2925	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2921	9:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA116/2920	9:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA116/2927	9:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA116/2929	9:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

Beach Road Pathway lighting halted

The highly anticipated relighting of the Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Road Pathway (formerly the Saipan Beach Pathway) has been abruptly halted due to the theft of newly installed copper wire.

The crime was committed sometime between 4:30pm last May 27 and 7:20am the following day, with over 1,300 feet of copper wire ripped out of the conduits and five light posts damaged.

"What a huge disappointment and misfortune for our community," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion "Just when we were ready to at least partially re-energize the pathway lights this month, a few people have ruined this opportunity for the entire community."

The more than $600,000 re-lighting is a destination enhancement project funded by the MVA and contracted by the Department of Public Works. Additional funding was recently approved to make additional repairs caused by Typhoon Soudelor. The crime was reported by contractor RNV when they reported to the job site on May 28, 2016. At first, it was believed only several light posts had been damaged, but the full extent of the theft was discovered upon closer inspection.

An LED light was also stolen, according to MVA.

"We are assured the Department of Public Safety is investigating every possible lead," said Concepcion. "We strongly encourage anyone with information to call CRIMESTOPPERS at 234-7272. Someone must have seen or heard something, and every little bit of information or tip could help recover the copper wire, bring the responsible parties to justice, and get this project back on track."

The MVA is also seeking restitution for another light post damaged by an errant driver. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

One of five light post optic glass light diffusers on the Froilan C. Tenorio Beach Road Pathway damaged by thieves on the evening of May 27 or early morning of May 28, 2016.

NMC CREES Listening Sessions begin this week

As part of its ongoing efforts to better serve the community, the Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service (NMC CREES) will be hosting "Listening Sessions" designed to solicit input, ideas, and recommendations from stakeholders and other community members.

Input collected from the listening sessions that begin this week will be used to formulate a strategy that will help CREES meet the evolving needs of the CNMI. The sessions will be organized into four key areas and will be held on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian at the following times and locations:

Agriculture

- Tuesday June 7, 2016, NMC Saipan Campus Building K, 8:30am-10:30am
- Thursday, June 9 2016, NMC Tinian Campus, 8:30am-9:30am
- Friday, June 10 2016, NMC Rota Campus, 8:30am-9:30am

Aquaculture and Natural Resources

- Tuesday June 7, 2016, NMC Saipan Campus Building K, 1:30am-3:30pm
- Thursday, June 9 2016, NMC Tinian Campus, 10am-11am
- Friday, June 10 2016, NMC Rota Campus, 10am-11am

Health & Nutrition

- Wednesday June 8, 2016, NMC Saipan Campus Building K, 8:30am-10:30am
- Thursday, June 9 2016, NMC Tinian Campus, 1:30pm-2:30pm
- Friday, June 10 2016, NMC Rota Campus, 1:30pm-2:30pm

Family, Community, & Youth Development

- Wednesday June 8, 2016, NMC Saipan Campus Building K, 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Thursday, June 9 2016, NMC Tinian Campus, 3pm-4pm
- Friday, June 10 2016, NMC Rota Campus, 3pm-4pm

Those who are not able to attend the listening session are asked to fill out paper-based questionnaires that are available at CREES administrative offices in Dandan at the RJ Commercial Center across from Joeten for Saipan; NMC Tinian Campus; or the NMC Rota Campus.

An online questionnaire is also available at http://tinyurl.com/crees-needs-assessment-2016. For more information about the listening session, please contact 237-6842. ***(PR)***

DOD medical, dental services on Tinian in Sept.

The Tinian Mayor's Office would like to thank everyone for their input regarding a request to the U.S. Department of Defense for the military to provide medical and dental services during their upcoming exercise on Tinian this September.

The Tinian Mayor's Office will be moving forward with the DoD application process in order to submit the application in time for the September training event. This second notice is a requirement of the DoD application process.

The mayor's office intends to complete and submit our application by June 1 and public comments are still encouraged in response to this notification until then. It is important we receive your comments especially if there are concerns that the DoD health care, when provided, would compete with a commercial entity.

Additional information will be available in the future concerning the type of medical and dental services that will be offered, the dates and times of availability, and how to schedule once our application is approved.

Please send responses or queries to Eric San Nicolas at the Tinian Mayor's Office at 433-1800/1802 or via email at tinian.gasetan@gmail.com. The deadline to submit responses or queries is Friday, June 17, 2016. ***(PR)***

FOR LOW-TO-MODERATE INCOME ENTREPRENEURS

HHA wins funding to support micro-enterprise businesses

KAUAI, Hawaii—The SCHHA Homestead Housing Authority (HHA) competitively won $112,000 in federal and private funds to assist a dozen micro-entrepreneurs to get a start or to expand on the island of Kauai. The program is funded for 12 months starting July 1, 2016.

"Economic development, job creation, and economic opportunities are all very much part and parcel of affordable housing," said Robin Puanani Danner, SCHHA Chairman. "They go hand in hand, and for affordable housing to be successful for low income families, building a solid source of income is paramount."

The program will provide small business and financial literacy training, State of Hawaii registration and tax registration filing workshops, and financial support to get started with hands-on opportunities at an established marketplace, located in North East Kauai in the Hawaiian homestead of Anahola.

"The micro-enterprise program is made possible now, because of the previous decade in building a certified kitchen and business incubator spaces," said Liberta Albao, the Kauai Commissioner on the Homestead Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. "As our housing authority continues its planning to develop affordable housing rentals on Kauai, this program runs parallel in supporting micro-entrepreneurs to get a start."

The micro-enterprise program will partner with the Anahola Hawaiian Homestead Association (AHHA) that operates the marketplace space in Anahola.

"This is a win-win for Kauai," remarked Sherri Cummings, AHHA Vice President. "I'm excited for the entrepreneurs that may benefit and grow their businesses to be self-sufficient."

The Homestead Housing Authority mission encompasses the five regions of the SCHHA—Hawaii Island, Maui, Molokai, Kauai, and Oahu. It is chaired by Hawaii Island SCHHA leader, Mike Hodson from the Waimea homestead region. Other Board of Commissioners include Kaulana Mossman from Maui, Kamaka Purdy from Molokai, Iwalani McBrayer from Oahu, and Liberta Albao from Kauai.

For more information contact SCHHA.associations@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

NMC offers nursing assistant course

The Northern Marianas College Nursing Program, in collaboration with the Community Development Institute and CNMI Area Health Education Center, is offering a "Certificate of Completion-Nursing Assistant" course, which will run for six (6) weeks or a total of one hundred and fifty (150) credit hours.

This course will prepare entry-level nursing assistants in providing basic nursing care to the elderly, ill, and persons with a disability in long-term care within the hospital, clinics, schools or home health settings. It is designed for any student or individual interested in beginning a career as a nursing assistant, is already taking a nursing course but is still in developmental English and math levels, or is already employed as a nursing assistant but has not completed the formal course work.

This course has been approved by the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners (CBNE). The course will also prepare participants to take the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program (NNAAP) Competency Examination. After successfully completing this course, certified participants will be eligible to take the NNAAP Competency Examination under CBNE, Northern Mariana Islands, be licensed as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), be placed on the CBNE Registry for Nursing Assistants, and may practice as a CNA in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Territories or U.S. mainland.

The dates for training are June 27, 2016 through Aug. 5, 2016.

Training pre-requisites include: registrants must be a high school or GED graduate; must have a Minimum English placement level of EN093 & EN084; and must have a minimum math placement level – MA 091.

Students must also meet NMC Admission Requirements:

- Complete an NMC Admission Application Form.
- Complete a Health Evaluation Form –must validate vaccinations for measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, and hepatitis B; provide results of current purified protein derivative (PPD) skin test (current = within two years).
- Pay the (non-refundable) Application Fee – $25 for resident or $50 for non-resident.
- Submit an official high school or GED transcript.
- Submit a copy of a valid, government-issued, photo ID.

Cost to Student:

- Applicable college fees
- Student manual
- Physical Examination Fee at private clinic for clinical experience
- BLS/CPR Class Fee for hospital experience
- Clinical requirements—white lab coat, white nursing uniforms, and white nursing shoes (white walking or jogging shoes are alternatives)
- NMC Nursing Program logo patches – 2 pieces
- Watch with second hand
- BP cuff and stethoscope
- CHCC hospital student name badge

For more information, you may contact Queanna Sablan, AHEC Program Manager, by phone at (670) 237-6809 or by email at queanna.sablan@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

MHS and SSHS participate in MINA program

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Marianas High School is also now part of the Micronesia Island Nature Alliance's Schools for Environmental Conservation program.

MHS students recycle water bottles.

Marianas High School and Saipan Southern High School were also participants in the Micronesia Island Nature Alliance's Schools for Environmental Conservation (SFEC) alongside Mount Carmel School, Kagman High School, Northern Marianas Academy, and Tanapag Middle School.

SFEC is a program that provides opportunities for students and teachers to learn about and work on a project that focuses on a specific environmental issue. This year's theme was "Learning About, Interacting With, and Actively Conserving Saipan's Watersheds." The schools were to create a Conservation Action Plan (CAP) and implement it throughout the school year.

Marianas High School's Conservation Action Planning Committee (CAPC) was the school team whose mission is to conserve valuable resources and raise awareness of environmental problems, through strengthening their school recycling program, holding campus and beach cleanups, planting trees around campus and initiating an "interschool environmental committee." MHS' school recycling program is designed to reduce the volume of trash by segregating the leftover cafeteria food, plastic bottles, bento lids and organizing them for disposal. They effectively reduced the space filling up a trash bag with over 300 bento boxes compared to 50 if they were not to segregate the debris. With the leftover food that is collected, distribution between local farmers and dog owners is done. Their idea for an interschool environmental committee is to collaborate with other schools, share best environmental practices, challenges and successes and coordinate events together.

Their club advisor, Mayolina Garcia shared "The best results will be obtained when teachers are able to integrate learning in the natural environment. Learning and understanding happens when the learners find the subject matter significant to them. As an Environmental Science educator for a number of years I feel obliged to let my students perceive the relevance of taking care of our environment. It is very rewarding joining them in their advocacy in the preservation of ecosystems, natural places and biological diversity on Saipan."

Saipan Southern High School's CAP was to create a rain garden on campus to improve water quality. Their project site had a lot of trash and broken ceramic pieces. The first task was to clean it out and fill the area with plants. They were able to obtain ferns, lemon grass, and ti-leaf, enough to plant in the area. Some of the challenges they faced were the number of volunteers to clean out the site and having the appropriate tools. But by the end of the year, the Youth Environmental Ambassadors (YEA) Club was able to clear and plant on half of the desired site. Their next steps will be to continue to water the plants until they are able to support themselves, plant more rain gardens on campus and use the collected broken ceramic pieces as stepping stones around the garden.

Two SSHS students water the rain garden on campus.

Saipan Southern High School's Conservation Action Plan was to create a rain garden on campus to improve water quality.

"This program charges the kids to create a solution based on evidence," says Roy Adsit. Referring to the challenges that they faced to complete their CAP, he shared that "It's important for the kids to learn that sometimes your best plans needs changes." They were also inspired by MHS's CAP and though they already recycle on campus, would like to recycle in the cafeteria as well.

According to Adsit, "This program helps me to teach the students lots of knowledge and some big life lessons, all while working hard and having fun!" ***(PR)***

USCGC Sherman's crew welcomes new commanding officer in Honolulu

HONOLULU—Capt. Steven P. Wittrock relieved Capt. Al-Dante Vinciguerra as the USCGC Sherman (WHEC 720) commanding officer during a change of command ceremony at Base Honolulu, Friday.

Wittrock most recently served as chief of the Office of Strategic Analysis at Coast Guard Headquarters.

Previously, Wittrock served aboard five cutters, including three tours as commanding officer. Wittrock's other assignments include serving as an instructor at the Coast Guard Academy and a program reviewer at the Office of Budget and Programs at Coast Guard Headquarters.

Wittrock's military awards include three Meritorious Service Medals, five Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Coast Guard 9-11 Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and a Commandant's Letter of Commendation.

He graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1992 with a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering. In 1997, Wittrock earned a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Illinois.

"I'm honored to assume command of Sherman and lead this outstanding crew as we continue to complete Coast Guard missions throughout the Pacific Area," said Wittrock, incoming commanding officer.

Vice Adm. Charles W. Ray, commander, Pacific Area and Defense Forces West, presided over the ceremony.

Vinciguerra assumed command of Sherman in February 2015 after decommissioning USCGC Rush (WHEC 723). He will serve as chief of response for the 7th Coast Guard District in Miami.

"I consider myself one of the luckiest people in the Coast Guard," said Vinciguerra. "I had the honor of commanding both Rush and Sherman which provided me the opportunity to work with an exceptional crew on a beautiful island."

The change of command ceremony is a time-honored tradition and formal ritual conducted before the assembled company of a command to confirm to the men and women of the unit that the authority of command is maintained. The ceremony is a transfer of total responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another.

Sherman's crew performs missions in all corners of the Pacific including defense operations, search and rescue, fisheries law enforcement, drug and migrant interdiction, joint interagency task force operations, and international engagement operations. The area of responsibility encompasses more than 12.2 million square miles in the Central and Western Pacific Ocean. ***(PR)***

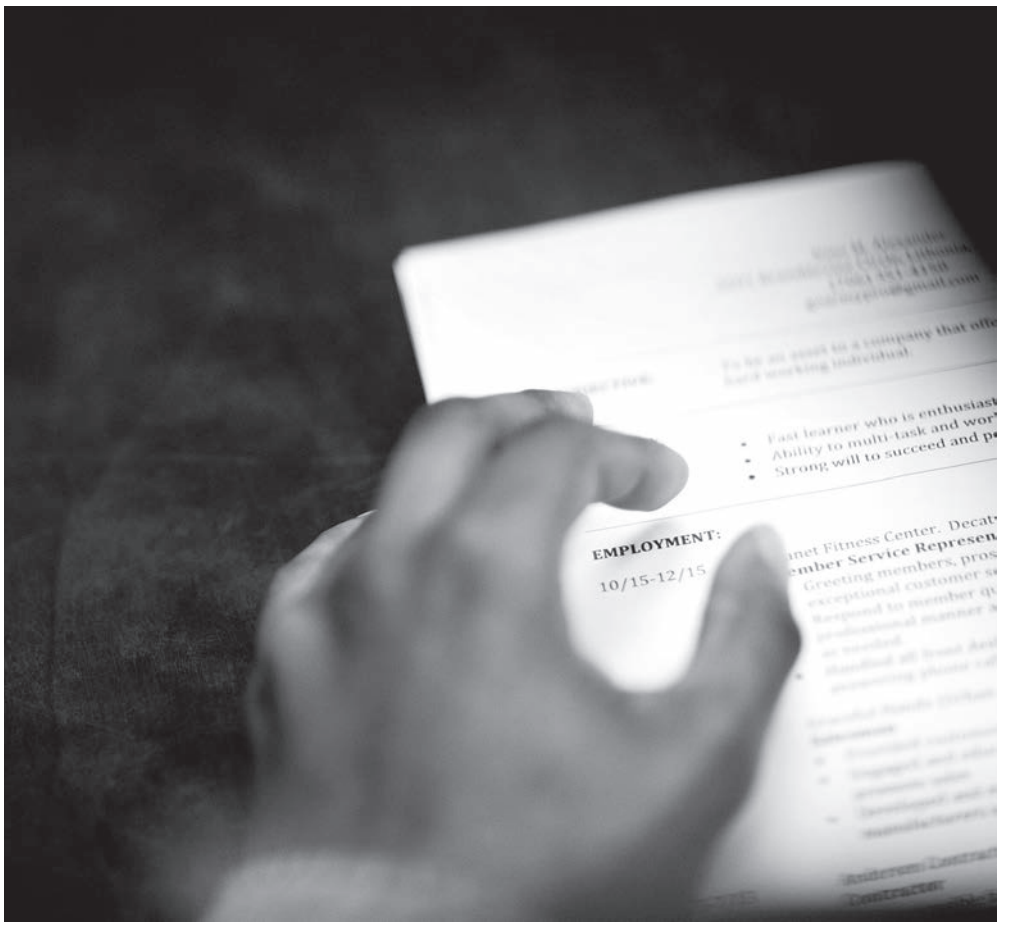
Business

Economists increasingly uncertain about US growth this year

Business economists are giving a more pessimistic outlook about U.S. economic growth this year for the third consecutive month and uncertainty over the November presidential election has proven to be damaging.

The median estimate from economists surveyed by the National Association for Business Economics calls for gross domestic product growth of only 1.8 percent, down from the 2.2 percent forecast in March. The outlook for next year calls for 2.3 percent growth.

The survey released Monday also shows the forecast for growth in corporate profits swinging from a 2 percent gain in March, to negative 2 percent in June.



AP

In this Thursday, March 3, 2016, file photo, a job candidate's resume sits on a table as he interviews for a job during a recruiting event at the Georgia Department of Labor office in Atlanta.

Of the economists surveyed, 57 percent said that uncertainty over the election led them to reduce their expectations.

Doubts about the economy deepened Friday when the government reported that hiring in May slowed to a near-standstill. While unemployment slid from 5 percent to 4.7 percent, the lowest since November 2007, the rate fell for a troubling reason: Nearly a half-million jobless Americans stopped looking for work and so were no longer counted as unemployed.

Employers added just 38,000 jobs in May, the fewest in more than five years.

The surprisingly weak jobs report raised doubts that the Federal Reserve will increase short-term interest rates at its next meeting in mid-June or perhaps even at its subsequent meeting in July. Rates have hovered around zero for seven years and almost everyone had expected the Fed to grow more aggressive this summer.

Economic unease has shaken up the upcoming presidential race.

Americans especially worried about the economy have been more likely to support outsider candidates like Donald Trump and Sen. Bernie Sanders.

The crucial California Democratic primary is Tuesday.

Forty-nine percent of the economists in the NABE survey see a positive impact on economic growth this year from low oil prices, as opposed to 18 percent viewing it as a negative. For next year, 55 percent see the impact as positive and 7 percent as negative.

The economists expect home prices to increase 5 percent for the fourth quarter, unchanged from the March forecast. The median estimate is for the growth in home prices to slow to 4.3 percent next year, just above 4 percent forecast in March.

Another negative political factor for economic growth: the rise of nationalist views such as trade protectionism around the world was chosen by 38 percent of those surveyed as the factor most likely to significantly reduce global growth in the next two years. Sixteen percent chose terrorism.

The survey of 48 forecasters was taken between May 2 and May 17. ***(AP)***

Sloppy invoices driving accounting manager nuts

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of "Secrets to Winning at Office Politics." Send in questions and get free coaching tips at http://www.yourofficecoach.com, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.

Q: One of our sales representatives is driving me crazy. "Dave" often gives customers special discounts and then forgets to enter them into our sales reporting system. As the accounting manager, I'm the one who has to clean up the mess created by his negligence.

Because incorrect information produces inaccurate invoices, we frequently receive calls from irate customers who did not receive their promised discounts. We then have to track Dave down so that we can send a corrected bill. I've complained to the sales manager, but he's been no help at all. What else can I do?

A: The simplest solution is to check with this absentminded sales rep before billing his customers. However, you must implement this step in a way that does not allow him to continue escaping responsibility. Here's one possible approach:

Before preparing invoices, send Dave an email request and copy his boss. For example: "Next week, invoices will be sent to customers on the attached list. If any of them should receive a discount, please let me know by Monday." If Dave responds to your prompting, that will resolve the issue and eliminate redundant work.

But if Dave fails to answer, send the invoices anyway. When irritated customers complain, simply pass the ball to him with another email: "Mr. Smith has informed us that you promised him a discount that was not reflected on his invoice. Since we have no record of this transaction, we are advising him to contact you directly."

Because dissatisfied customers are a sales manager's nightmare, you should copy Dave's boss on every one of these emails. Once he understands that sloppy sales records are a customer problem, not an accounting problem, the discount documentation may quickly improve.

Q: I'm not sure how to explain my recent employment history. After working as a clinical scientist in a local hospital for 14 years, I was offered a different job in a large medical center. Since this looked like an opportunity to expand my skills, I decided to accept.

Unfortunately, this proved to be a poor decision. I soon learned that my new boss had been forced to hire me and was not happy about it. Because I was never able to please him, I chose to return to my former employer in a part-time position.

I am now looking for a full-time job in my original field. On my resume, how should I describe my reasons for leaving the medical center and going back to the hospital?

A: Actually, your resume is not the place to explain or justify your employment decisions. Resumes are typically used to provide a concise summary of qualifications, so a narrative explanation might seem odd to some employers. However, you should definitely be prepared to answer these questions during interviews.

Since any discussion of your unhappy boss might raise a red flag, keep the focus on your desire to return to clinical science. Fortunately, your previously stable work history should eliminate any job-hopper concerns, and your need for full-time work requires little explanation.

US presses China on industrial glut at strategic dialogue

BEIJING (AP)—U.S. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew urged China on Monday to cut excess steel production that he warned is distorting global trade as the two sides opened a high-level dialogue overshadowed by tension over the South China Sea.

The annual meeting of Cabinet-level foreign affairs, trade and other officials from both sides is meant to head off conflict. The sides also called for closer cooperation between the two biggest economies on climate change, global finance, agriculture and other fields.

The U.S. agenda includes pressing Beijing to move faster with plans to reduce excess production capacity that its trading partners complain is driving a flood of low-cost steel into their markets, threatening thousands of jobs. Washington has responded by imposing anti-dumping tariffs on steel, and European officials say they are investigating.

"Excess capacity has a distorting and damaging effect on global markets," Lew said in a statement at the start of the two-day meeting. "And implementing policies to substantially reduce production in a range of sectors suffering from overcapacity, including steel and aluminum, is critical to the function and stability of international markets."

Beijing announced plans this year to slash the size of its state-owned steel and coal industries, costing millions of jobs. But plans for other bloated sectors including aluminum, glass and solar panels have yet to be announced.

Speaking at the event's opening ceremony, Chinese President Xi Jinping promised action on reducing overcapacity but announced no new initiatives.

"China will redouble efforts to promote supply side structural reform," said Xi, who also is leader of the ruling Communist Party.

Washington also wants China to move faster to reduce a rising burden of corporate debt that could hamper economic growth.

U.S. officials are pressing Beijing to ease market access for financial services, an area where foreign business groups complain China is trying to shield its companies in violation of free-trade commitments.

Xi warned against allowing diplomatic tensions to disrupt mutually beneficial trade and other relations. He acknowledged that differences "are hardly unavoidable" but called on Washington to help manage them in a "pragmatic and constructive fashion."

"What is important is to refrain from taking differences as excuses for confrontation," Xi said.

Tensions have increased over China's claim to virtually the entire South China Sea.

Gas prices jump 6 cents over past 2 weeks, averages $2.37

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP)—The average price of gasoline has jumped by six cents over the past two weeks to $2.37 a gallon for regular grade.

Industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday that the hike is mostly due to a continuing increase in crude oil prices. The price at the pump has risen 60 cents over the past 15 weeks.

In the Lower 48, the highest average price of regular gasoline was $2.87 per gallon in San Francisco. The lowest was $2.04 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The U.S. average diesel price is $2.39 per gallon, up 6 cents from two weeks ago.

Nation

US cities see unexplained rise in violent crimes this year

CHICAGO (AP)—Violent crimes—from homicides and rapes to robberies—have been on the rise in many major U.S. cities, yet experts can't point to a single reason why and the jump isn't enough to suggest there's a trend.

Still, it is stumping law enforcement officials, who are seeking a way to combat the problem.

"It's being reported on at local levels, but in my view, it's not getting the attention at the national level it deserves," FBI Director James Comey said recently. "I don't know what the answer is, but holy cow, do we have a problem."

Americans have grown accustomed to low crime rates since a peak in the 1990s. But law enforcement started seeing a spike last year that has continued unabated. What's unusual, however, is that it's not happening everywhere. Chicago and Los Angeles are seeing homicides on the rise, but other places like Miami and Oakland are not.

AP
In this April 5, 2016, file photo, FBI Director James Comey addresses the media after visiting with employees and other law enforcement officials in Detroit.

Chicago, a city long associated with violent crime that plagues its poorer neighborhoods, saw six people fatally shot over the Memorial Day weekend and 56 wounded, ending a bloody month in a bloody year. May's 66 homicides—19 more than May 2015 and 25 more than May 2014—raised the total number for the year past the 240 mark. That's more than 50 percent higher than last year, and puts the city on a pace to easily surpass the 500 homicides it saw in 2012.

Perhaps more significant is the number of people who are being shot; well over 1,200 as of Tuesday, which far surpasses the 800 by this time last year.

All of it has left the city on edge.

"Our kids are afraid to go out of the house," said the Rev. Michael Pfleger, a Catholic priest and activist on the city's South Side. "You have children asking teachers to pray for them before they go home."

Some say the splintering of gangs has created deadly rivalries, others say the disbanding of specialized police units has helped embolden gangs. Guns are pouring into the city—with police saying they've seized more guns this year (3,500) than any city police department in the United States—but courts also have overturned or gutted the city's once-tough gun laws.

Add to that concerns, expressed publicly by Mayor Rahm Emanuel and privately by officers, that videos like the one of a white officer fatally shooting 17-year-old Laquan McDonald, who was black, are making officers reluctant to combat crime. That video, which led to murder charges against the officer, exposed and deepened the rift between the community and the police force that many say has made the public less likely to offer the kind of cooperation that the department needs to prevent and solve crimes.

"Quite frankly, trust has broken down between the community and police," new police superintendent Eddie Johnson said.

Police van driver goes on trial for black man's death

BALTIMORE (AP)—The stakes are high in the upcoming trial for an officer who prosecutors say bears the most responsibility for the death of Freddie Gray, a young black man whose spine was snapped in the back of a police transport wagon.

The van driver, Officer Caesar Goodson, faces second-degree murder and other charges. He will also face buck-passing from fellow officers who have already testified in two previous trials that if anyone was responsible for ensuring Gray's safety, it was him.

The officer faces 30 years in prison if he's convicted of the murder charge. If prosecutors fail to secure a guilty verdict, it will be the third straight trial in which they haven't gotten a favorable decision: The first trial ended in a hung jury and the second finished with an acquitted last month.

Prosecutors say Goodson was grossly negligent when he failed to buckle Gray into a seat belt and call for medical aid during Gray's 45-minute ride in the back of Goodson's transport van April 12, 2015. But with no eye witnesses and very little physical evidence, experts say the government could be facing an uphill battle.

"It would be devastating for the state to lose Goodson's trial because there's no question that the ultimate responsibility lies with the van driver," said Warren Alperstein, a Baltimore attorney who has been closely following the case.

Gray died a week after he was injured in the van. His death prompted protests and civil unrest in the streets of Baltimore, and his name became a national rallying cry for people angry over officers' mistreatment of African Americans.

Gray was arrested in West Baltimore after making eye contact with a bicycle officer and running away. Once he was handcuffed and placed inside the van, witnesses have testified that Gray began to scream and kick so violently he shook the wagon. Two blocks from the arrest site, the wagon stopped again, and three officers took Gray out of the van to put him in leg shackles. They then placed him on the floor of the van, head-first and on his belly. He was never buckled into a seat belt, as required by department policy.

The van made six stops in total during the trip from the site of his arrest to the Western District station house. Goodson is the only officer present at each of the stops. At one point, Goodson stopped the van to check on Gray without any other officers there.

Memphis officer struck, killed after 3 shot in Memphis

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A man suspected in a downtown Memphis shooting that left three people injured fled in a stolen vehicle that fatally struck a police officer, police said Sunday.

Justine Welch, 21, faces multiple charges that include first-degree murder, vehicular homicide, attempted first-degree murder, evading arrest and theft of property over $10,000, police spokeswoman Sgt. Karen Rudolph said in a news release. The release did not disclose Welch's hometown.

Welch was being held at the Shelby County Jail. Jail records didn't indicate whether Welch has an attorney.

Officer Verdell Smith, 46, was pronounced dead from his injuries at 10:43 p.m. Saturday, Memphis Police Department Director Mike Rallings said during a news conference.

Police said two people were taken to the hospital after being shot at about 10 p.m. Saturday by the suspect, who then ran to a retail complex and shot a male employee.

Memphis police spokeswoman Sgt. Karen Rudolph said Sunday the 21-year old employee has been released from a hospital, while the other two victims, ages 39 and 57, remained in critical condition. Their names weren't released.

Police said the suspect then fled in a vehicle and later struck Smith, who had been working with other officers to clear the area. The suspect then fled briefly on foot but was apprehended by police and taken to a hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Rudolph said the vehicle driven by the suspect was reported stolen earlier in the day. She said four incident reports were filed by police due to the multiple locations, and an investigation is ongoing.

"Due to the magnitude of these incidents, it will take time to go through all the details," Rudolph said.

Rallings said Smith was an 18-year police veteran who is survived by a father, fiance, son and two daughters.

"He's a man's man and he was an officer's officer. He was definitely a great father," Rallings said. "Like I said, he loved his son-always talked about him, always had him with him. I think his son is taking it really, really hard. He had two daughters as well."

Evacuations canceled for Southern California brush fire

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Thousands of people driven from their homes in the hills northwest of Los Angeles were allowed to return Sunday night after crews working in steep canyons took advantage of cooler temperatures and calmer winds to beat back a brush fire.

The fire near the prosperous and semi-rural neighborhoods of Calabasas was 80 percent contained by sunset—up from 30 percent at daybreak.

Firefighters using aircraft made water drops along the eastern and southern edges of the blaze, which was held to just over 500 acres, Los Angeles County Deputy Fire Chief John Tripp said.

He said the fire was hung up on the mid-slope of steep canyons, making a direct attack difficult.

"The fire was not down against a road, it was up against a cliff," Tripp said. "So firefighters had to hike up."

All the evacuations, most of them in Calabasas but some in nearby Topanga, were canceled starting at 6 p.m.

At the height of the fire, about 3,000 homes were threatened and about 5,000 residents were under evacuation orders. It was sparked by a car crash that downed power lines.

The fire destroyed one commercial building, Tripp said. Officials had previously said three homes had been damaged, but closer examination as the fire calmed showed that was not the case, he said.

Fifty-foot-high flames erupted on ridges, and embers turned trees into torches Saturday afternoon. The fire flared as Southern California sweltered under temperatures that hit the 90s in many places.

Flames raced through drought-dry brush and came within yards of million-dollar homes. The smoke could be seen across the region, and a dusting of ash rained down on neighborhoods more than 30 miles away.

Some horse owners in the area put the animals in trailers and hauled them away. Authorities set up an evacuation center for people with large animals at Pierce College in Woodland Hills.

More than 500 firefighters, aided by bulldozers and water-dropping helicopters, were on the scene, but the numbers were decreasing by the end of Sunday.

To the southeast, a smoky wildfire burning in Riverside County was 65 percent contained Sunday. The blaze that broke out a day earlier along Interstate 15 in Temecula charred about 140 acres of dry brush. No structures were threatened.

To the north in Monterey County, a wildfire that has charred 3,500 acres of grass and brush in the Los Padres

Asia

PH president-elect urges public to kill drug dealers

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine president-elect has encouraged the public to help him in his war against crime, urging citizens with guns to shoot and kill drug dealers who resist arrest and fight back in their neighborhoods.

In a nationally televised speech late Saturday, Rodrigo Duterte told a huge crowd in the southern city of Davao that Filipinos who help him battle crime will be rewarded.

"Please feel free to call us, the police, or do it yourself if you have the gun — you have my support," Duterte said, warning of an extensive illegal drug trade that involves even the country's police.

If a drug dealer resists arrest or refuses to be brought to a police station and threatens a citizen with a gun or a knife, "you can kill him," Duterte said. "Shoot him and I'll give you a medal."

The 71-year-old Duterte won the May 9 presidential election on a bold promise to end crime and corruption within six months of the start of his presidency. That vow resonated among crime-weary Filipinos, though police officials considered it campaign rhetoric that was impossible to accomplish.

AP
In this April 29, 2016 file photo, presidential candidate Rodrigo Duterte answers questions from the media in Manila, Philippines.

Human rights watchdogs have expressed alarm that his anti-crime drive may lead to widespread rights violations.

Duterte, a longtime Davao mayor, has been suspected of playing a role in many killings of suspected criminals in his city by motorcycle-riding assassins known as the "Davao death squads," but human rights watchdogs say he has not been criminally charged because nobody has dared to testify against him in court

In his speech on Saturday, Duterte asked three police generals based in the main national police camp in the capital to resign for involvement in crimes that he did not specify. He threatened to humiliate them in public if they did not quit and said he would order a review of dismissed criminal cases of active policemen, suggesting some may have bribed their way back onto the force.

"They go back again crucifying the Filipino," he said. "I won't agree to that."

"If you're still into drugs, I will kill you, don't take this as a joke. I'm not trying to make you laugh, son of a bitch, I will really kill you," Duterte said to loud jeers and applause.

The foul-mouthed former government prosecutor said crimes were committed by law enforcers because of "extreme greed and extreme need." He said that he would provide a small amount to an officer who was tempted because his wife has cancer or a mother died, but that those who would break the law because of extreme greed "will also be dealt with by me. I'll have you killed."

Duterte, who starts his six-year presidential term on June 30, repeated a plan to offer huge bounties to those who can turn in drug lords, dead or alive.

While it remains to be seen what will happen to his threats when he takes office, some policemen have heeded his call for a tougher anti-crime approach.

In suburban Las Pinas city in the Manila metropolis, police have apprehended more than 100 minors who defied a night curfew, and men who were either having drinking sprees in public or roaming around shirtless in violation of a local ordinance. The crackdown was dubbed "Oplan Rody" — after Duterte's nickname — or "Rid the Streets of Drinkers and Youth."

US sailor arrested on suspicion of drunken driving in Japan

TOKYO (AP)—An American sailor was arrested Sunday on suspicion of drunken driving causing an accident on Japan's southern island of Okinawa, where public anger has run high over crimes by U.S. military personnel.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Aimee Mejia, 21, assigned to Kadena base in Okinawa, was arrested after driving the wrong way on a freeway and smashing head-on into two vehicles late Saturday, police spokesman Takashi Shirado. She was not injured but two people in the other cars were injured, one in the arm and the other in the chest, he said.

The U.S. military did not immediately respond to email requesting comment.

Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida spoke with U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy about the arrest, with Kishida asking the U.S. do more to prevent a recurrence, the ministry said in a statement.

Kennedy offered her regrets to the family of those injured, the ministry said. The U.S. Embassy did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

American military personnel are under a midnight curfew and off-base drinking is banned through later this month in Okinawa after an American, a former Marine who worked on a U.S. military base, was arrested after he led police to a woman's body. He is being held on suspicion of abandoning the body, while police investigate.

Okinawa is home to more than half of about 50,000 American troops based in Japan. Protests are common on the island, where residents feel they are being forced with an unfair burden of housing the U.S. troops under a bilateral security agreement.

The suspected murder of the woman was such a critical issue it came up during President Barack Obama's recent visit to Japan. Obama offered his condolences and promised the U.S. would fully cooperate to have the man prosecuted under Japanese law.

Japan and the U.S. have been working together to relocate a U.S. Marine Corps air station from a densely populated neighborhood in central Okinawa to another part of the island, but the project has repeatedly been delayed. Protesters are demanding that the facility be moved off Okinawa.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Speeding bus crashes into 2 cars, killing 17 in west India

NEW DELHI (AP)—Police say a speeding bus struck two cars on a highway in a crash that killed at least 17 people and injured 35 others in western India. Constable Sanjay Shetge said the bus struck the cars Sunday as they were parked on the side of the Navi Mumbai highway to fix a flat tire. All three vehicles fell into a ditch with the impact of the crash. Villagers and police climbed into the ditch and helped rescue the injured and ferry them to nearby hospitals. Navi Mumbai is about 30 kilometers (20 miles) east of Mumbai, India's financial hub.

3 die in floodwaters as strong storm lashes Australia's east

SYDNEY (AP)—Three people have been killed in floodwaters from a strong storm that pounded Australia's east coast over the weekend. New South Wales state police say the body of a 65-year-old man was found on Monday in a car in a creek near the town of Bowral, about 120 kilometers (75 miles) south of Sydney. The body of another man was found in a truck swept away by floodwaters in the southwest Sydney suburb of Leppington. In the nation's capital, Canberra, a 37-year-old man died after his car was also caught in floodwaters. The storm whipped up waves as high as 12 meters (40 feet), which caused serious beach erosion and forced hundreds of coastal residents to evacuate.

Malaysia Airlines says passengers injured due to turbulence

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia Airlines says a flight from London to Kuala Lumpur has experienced severe turbulence, causing minor injuries to some passengers and crew. The airline said there was a "brief moment of severe turbulence" when flight MH1, with 378 people on board, flew over the Bay of Bengal on Sunday. It said in a statement that the flight landed safely in Kuala Lumpur, and that a small number of affected passengers and crew were given immediate treatment. It provided no further details and airline officials couldn't be immediately reachhed for comment. A passenger, Harith Azman, posted photos on Facebook showing fallen food carts and a damaged hand rest. He said his father was in one of the plane's bathrooms at the time and hit his head on the ceiling.

Wife of Bangladesh policeman who battled militants killed

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—At least three men riding a motorbike Sunday killed the wife of a police superintendent who led drives against Islamist militants and drug cartels in southeastern Bangladesh, police said.

Separately, the Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the killing of a Christian man Sunday in northwestern Bangladesh.

Police said they did not know who was responsible for killing the police superintendent's wife, Mahmuda Khanam, but they were not ruling out militant groups, said Iqbal Bahar, the police commissioner in the city of Chittagong, where the attack took place.

The attackers stabbed and shot Khanam in the head as she waited with her son for a school bus, Bahar told reporters.

Khanam's husband, Babul Akter, had led a number of raids against Islamic militant groups, especially the banned outfit Jumatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh, Bahar said.

Paritosh Ghosh, a senior police official in Chittagong, said authorities were collecting video footage from closed circuit cameras at the scene.

"We do not rule out involvement of any militant groups or drug cartels," Ghosh said, adding that Akter had led a number of operations against both.

Authorities in Muslim-majority Bangladesh say suspected Islamist militants have attacked and killed a number of people in recent years, including atheist bloggers, publishers, teachers and activists, and minority groups and foreigners.

The Islamic State group has claimed responsibility for some of the attacks, according to SITE Intelligence Group, but authorities have denied that IS has a presence in the country.

In the other attack on Sunday, unidentified men hacked to death a Christian man in northwestern Bangladesh's Natore district, police said.

Family members found Sunil Gomes lying in a pool of blood after the attack in his grocery shop, which is close to a church and a Christian neighborhood, said Monirul Islam, a local police chief in Natore.

The Islamic State group-linked Amaq News Agency said IS was responsible for the attack.

Minority groups in Bangladesh have said that people from the country's Christian, Hindu and Buddhist communities have received threats from suspected Islamist groups. At least 12 bishops received threats in various forms ahead of last Christmas.

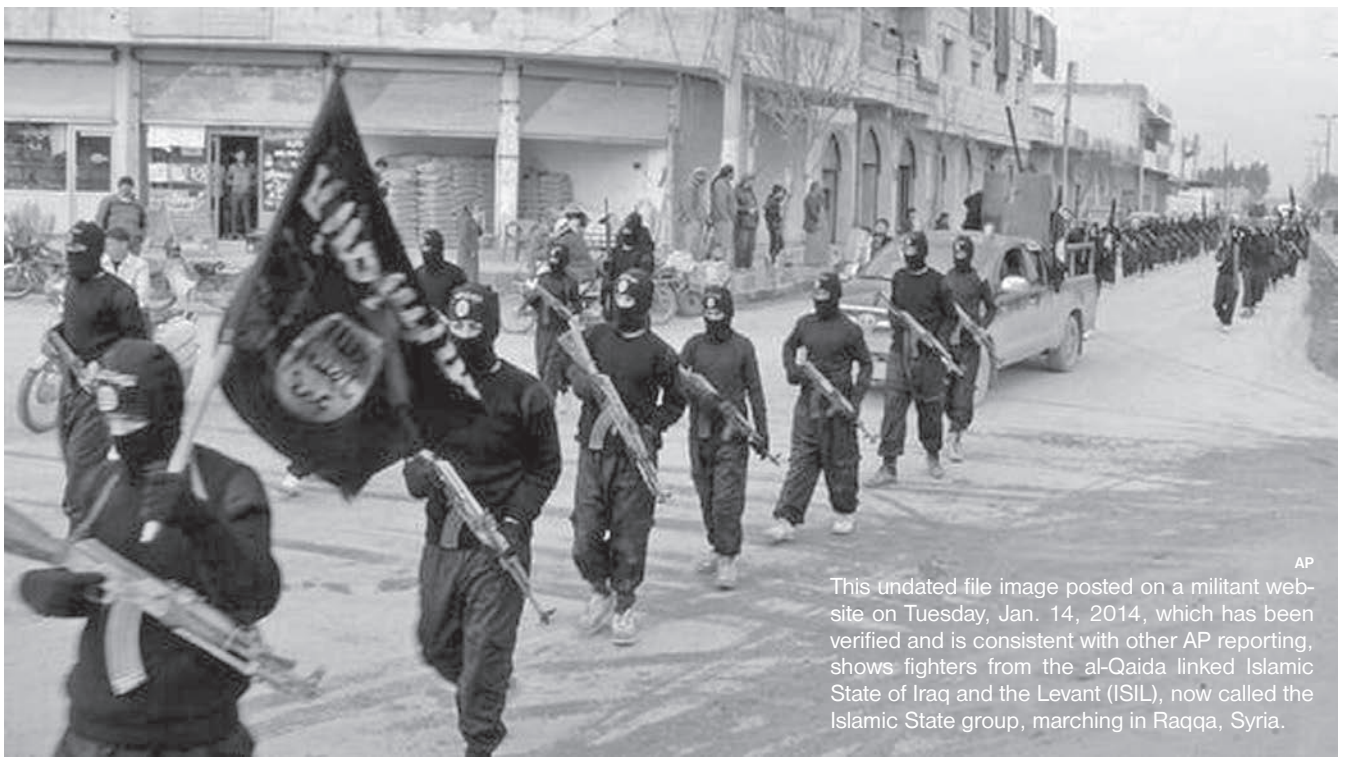
World

Islamic State kills dozens of its own in hunt for spies

BAGHDAD (AP)—In March, a senior commander with the Islamic State group was driving through northern Syria on orders to lead militants in the fighting there when a drone blasted his vehicle to oblivion.

The killing of Abu Hayjaa al-Tunsi, a Tunisian jihadi, sparked a panicked hunt within the group's ranks for spies who could have tipped off the U.S-led coalition about his closely guarded movements. By the time it was over, the group would kill 38 of its own members on suspicion of acting as informants.

They were among dozens of IS members killed by their own leadership in recent months in a vicious purge after a string of airstrikes killed prominent figures. Others have disappeared into prisons and still more have fled, fearing they could be next as the jihadi group turns on itself in the hunt for moles, according to Syrian opposition activists, Kurdish militia commanders, several Iraqi intelligence officials and an informant for the Iraqi government who worked within IS ranks.



AP

This undated file image posted on a militant website on Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2014, which has been verified and is consistent with other AP reporting, shows fighters from the al-Qaida linked Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), now called the Islamic State group, marching in Raqqa, Syria.

The fear of informants has fueled paranoia among the militants' ranks. A mobile phone or internet connection can raise suspicions. As a warning to others, IS has displayed the bodies of some suspected spies in public—or used particularly gruesome methods, including reportedly dropping some into a vat of acid.

IS "commanders don't dare come from Iraq to Syria because they are being liquidated" by airstrikes, said Bebars al-Talawy, an opposition activist in Syria who monitors the jihadi group.

Over the past months, American officials have said that the U.S. has killed a string of top commanders from the group, including its "minister of war" Omar al-Shishani, feared Iraqi militant Shaker Wuhayeb, also known as Abu Wahib, as well as a top finance official known by several names, including Haji Iman, Abu Alaa al-Afari or Abu Ali Al-Anbari.

In the northern Iraqi city of Mosul, the biggest city held by IS across its "caliphate" stretching across Syria and Iraq, a succession of militants who held the post of "wali," or governor, in the province have died in airstrikes. As a result, those appointed to governor posts have asked not to be identified and they limit their movements, the Iraqi informant told The Associated Press. Iraqi intelligence officials allowed the AP to speak by phone with the informant, who spoke on condition of anonymity, fearing for his life.

The purge comes at a time when IS has lost ground in both Syria and Iraq. An Iraqi government offensive recaptured the western city of Ramadi from IS earlier this year, and another mission is underway to retake the nearby city of Fallujah.

Rami Abdurrahman, who heads the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, said some IS fighters began feeding information to the coalition about targets and movements of the group's officials because they needed money after the extremist group sharply reduced salaries in the wake of coalition and Russian airstrikes on IS-held oil facilities earlier this year. The damage and the loss of important IS-held supply routes into Turkey have reportedly hurt the group's financing.

Russian crime gangs find gays easy targets for blackmail

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP)—Criminal gangs in Russia, operating through gay dating sites, have found a lucrative new blackmail target: homosexual men.

A St. Petersburg economist, one of their latest victims, said several men burst into the apartment where he was meeting his date. Claiming that his date was under age, they threatened to call the police and to release a video they had secretly filmed unless he paid up.

The gay rights group Vykhod, or Coming Out, said they registered 12 such attacks in St. Petersburg in 2015 and at least six more gay men have come to them so far this year. LGBT activists believe the real number is far higher and say the attacks have increased in the past two years.

Since homosexuality finds little acceptance in Russian society, many gays keep their sexual orientation hidden from their families, friends and coworkers. This makes them easy extortion targets for criminals.

Vykhod spokeswoman Nika Yuryeva said most of the recent attacks have followed the same pattern as the one seen by the St. Petersburg economist.

Alexander Loza, a legal adviser at Positive Dialogue, an organization that provides consulting services for gays, particularly those living with the HIV virus, has heard similar stories.

"Many gay people in Russia lead a double life, unwilling to disclose their sexual orientation to their family or at work," Loza said. "In the case of such setup dates, they are afraid to disclose their status, to be accused of pedophilia, and therefore they are afraid to appeal to the police."

The activists said Russian criminals have been emboldened by a 2013 law that made it a crime to expose children to gay "propaganda," part of a Kremlin-backed effort to defend traditional family values and counter the influence of what it considers a decadent West.

Alexander Zhelezkin, who manages outreach programs at Positive Dialogue, said the law was what made him decide to become a gay activist.

"Now, my coming out is my defense," he said.

For prominent television journalist Anton Krasovsky, however, that move ended his career in Russia. He was fired after he came out on the air in 2013 and hasn't been able to find a job in television since.

Paris museum reopens as French floods slowly ease

PARIS (AP)—The riverside Grand Palais exhibition hall in Paris reopened Sunday as floodwaters slowly receded from the French capital, after the worst floods in three decades caused the Seine River to burst its banks.

Other regions remained at risk, notably parts of Normandy, as digging out began in villages and towns around the French capital.

The Louvre Museum, several Paris train stations and roads remained closed. Quayside restaurants along the Seine were still engulfed in water Sunday and tourist boats were unable to pass under bridges, a blow to the riverside economy.

The glass-topped Grand Palais, built for the 1900 World's Fair and currently hosting an exhibit by avant-garde Chinese artist Huang Yong Ping among several others, opened again Sunday after closing Friday because of flood risks.

Elsewhere, emergency crews were pumping water out of a key Paris highway interchange. South of the capital, 300 cars and big rigs trapped for four days on a highway were being removed and returned to their owners who had been forced to abandon them. The complex, day-long operation "is going quite well," Gendarmerie Capt. Laurent Terrien told BFM-TV.

After a week of exceptionally heavy rains around Europe, at least 18 people died in flooding in Germany, France, Romania and Belgium. New thunderstorms were forecast for eastern France on Sunday. In Normandy, the Seine River was expected to peak later in the day. More than 11,000 French homes are still without electricity.

President Francois Hollande said ministers involved in the flooding will examine the consequences on Monday at a meeting presided over by Prime Minister Manuel Valls. Wednesday's Cabinet meeting will also focus on the floods, he said in an interview with France Inter radio.

"We are very vigilant so that should there be more bad weather, there won't be consequences," Hollande said, adding he was confident the monthlong European Championship soccer tournament that starts on Friday would be a flood-free event.

In Paris, the Seine peaked Saturday and the national flood service said it would remain about 4 meters (more than 13 feet) above normal Sunday. Authorities warn it will take up to 10 days for the river to return to normal.

Pope proclaims two new saints in canonization Mass

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Pope Francis proclaimed two new saints on Sunday: A Lutheran convert who hid Jews during World War II and the Polish founder of the first men's religious order dedicated to the immaculate conception.

Francis called Swedish-born Elizabeth Hesselblad and Stanislaus Papczynski "exemplary witnesses to this mystery of resurrection" during the canonization Mass in St. Peter's Square. Poland's President Andrzej Duda and first lady Agata Kornhauser-Duda attended the ceremony.

Hesselblad saved the lives of 12 Jewish members of the Piperno-Sed families by hiding them in the convent in Rome where she was superior from December 1943 until the capital's liberation on June 4, 1944.

Israel's Holocaust center Yad Vashem bestowed on her the title "Righteous Among the Nations." It said Hesselblad never tried to convert those she saved but, "rather insisting that they say their Hebrew prayers and fulfill other obligations of their religion."

Hesselblad, who was baptized in the Reform Church, migrated to the United States where she worked as a nurse and converted to Catholicism. She later moved to Rome, where she became a nun and dedicated her life to her religious order. She died of natural causes in 1957 and was beatified in 2000.

She is Sweden's second saint in 625 years, following Saint Bridget, who was canonized in 1391.

Her canonization comes ahead of Francis' scheduled trip to Sweden later this year to mark the 500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation.

Stanislaus of Jesus and Mary, as he is known, supported hospitals and shelters for the poor and cared for the sick in 17th Century Poland. In his early years he himself experienced serious sickness and begged in the streets.

"Papczynski preached mercy and encouraged people to do acts of mercy," the Polish Episcopate said on its website.

His crowning achievement was founding the order of Marian Fathers, which preached the cult of Holy Mary.

Papczynski was born in 1631 to the family of an ironsmith in the village of Podegrodzie, in southern Poland. He had one brother and six sisters, and died in 1701.

Overdrive

AUTO REVIEW:

Infiniti's largest species is a luxury beast

By ROBERT DUFFER
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

TNS

The Infiniti QX80 is a luxurious full-size SUV that seats seven, gets 15 mpg combined, and costs $90,000 in AWD Limited trim.

Some objects are larger than they appear: Pro basketball players, locomotives, the Grand Canyon.

Add the Infiniti QX80 to the larger than life list. So large it didn't fit in a 2.5-car garage; so large my 9-year-old said to paint it green and put a gun on top; so large the passengers needed grunts, handles and hoists to climb aboard. It outsizes the GM competition in height and headroom, so it could comfortably fit a starting NBA basketball team with a sixth man or a coach.

The only larger full-size SUVs are the extended versions of the GMC Yukon and Ford Expedition.

It isn't just humongous, it's luxurious too, with soft, quilted leather seats, fine ash wood on the dash and doors and dual in-seat screens, as well as heated and ventilated midrow seats.

But largely, front to back, top to bottom, Infiniti's best-selling SUV is large.

From the outside it's loud. On start up, the 5.6-liter V-8 engine yawns for a good few minutes before gearing up to snarf down some dinosaur juice. Paired to a seven-speed automatic transmission, the beautiful beast generates 400 horsepower and 413 pound-feet of torque, good enough to tow 8,500 pounds, or the opposing team and its staff.

Once inside it is remarkably smooth and quiet for a frame typically used on pickups.

A brief history: Up until 2014, Infiniti called its full-sized SUV the QX56 for the same sized engine it's been using since it debuted for model year 2004. That vehicle, and the less luxurious Nissan Armada, were based on the Nissan Titan full-size pickup truck.

The first (and only) full redesign came for model year 2011, when parent company Nissan switched the QX56 off the Titan platform to the global Nissan Patrol, which is a large off-road beast that has been tearing through the wild open spaces of Australia and other continents since the late 1950s. The 2017 Nissan Armada is redesigned off the Patrol platform as well.

What's new: New for 2015 was the top of the line Limited trim that we had in our tester. New for 2016 was hermosa blue, or dark blue, paint coat that looked black at night, blue in light.

Not a truck: The body-on-frame construction, which once upon a time distinguished SUVs from cars when SUVs were SUVs and crossovers were limited to the basketball court, has all sorts of noise-deadening elements that make it sound, if not move, much lighter than its 5,900-pound body. Independent double-wishbone suspension on both axles also gives it a more cushioned carlike feel, while also helping it stay more planted on the road.

While the QX80 is off-road capable, the 22-inch black wheels, running board lighting and cushy interior might make owners think twice about mucking up their $90,000 mammoth.

Soft leather pads the Limited trim, from door handle hoists to the truffle brown steering wheel. The wide, quilted seats are all kinds of comfortable, yet lack the lumbar flexibility of other luxury models. In trucklike fashion, the center console is about as wide as a seat, and was repeated in the second row in our seven-seat configuration.

Access to the uncompromised third row is handled with a latch that may need adult activation for the smallest passengers. Those grade-school types are fully consumed by the third row, which can offer some road-trip serenity up front. Built-in dual screens in the seat backs also deliver serenity now.

The hauling of not just families but their things is made effortless by power controls to operate the 60/40 split-folding third row. Controls are in the center stack, or near the side cup holders for the mid- or rear-seat passengers. Controls are also in the hatch.

The ride is nice, if you can stomach the guilt.

An assault on nature comes naturally for a vehicle this large, especially when it averages less than 13 mpg around town and 16 mpg at speeds over 60 mph. The EPA rating of 15 mpg combined is the worst in this large, endangered breed and suggests that the outdated gas guzzler tax should apply to all passenger vehicles, rather than excluding SUVs and minivans.

The QX80 allows for living large in luxury, but it's a load.

NUTS & BOLTS

2016 Infiniti QX80 Limited at a glance

- Base price: $88,850
- As tested: $88,850 (excluding $995 destination fee)
- Mpg: 13 city, 19 highway
- Engine: 5.6-liter V-8 in all-wheel drive
- Transmission: seven-speed automatic
- Parting shot: Large animals went extinct for a reason. Large vehicles take note.

UNDER THE HOOD: Want a diagnostic scan tool? Check these out

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: What do you think about the cheap auto scanner modules that hook up with your phone? You often write about the advantages of having a scanner for checking diagnostic trouble codes.

_Darlene M.

A: Let me start by saying new equipment springs up all the time, and if anyone has suggestions for useful devices I haven't mentioned, I'd be happy to share the information.

An inexpensive onboard diagnostic code reader, or better yet, an onboard diagnostic scan tool is a really useful tool for the do-it-yourself car enthusiast.

A very basic, self-contained code reader that will retrieve codes and clear them can be found for as little as $10.

Another option is the Elm-327 interface you mentioned, for about the same price. These connect via Bluetooth to a smartphone. One can then search from several inexpensive apps to view codes, clear them and observe limited live vehicle information.

These gadgets work, but I've found their interfaces to be sometimes erratic, and the available apps are worth their $5 price but not much more.

Other options include a full-featured onboard diagnostic scan tool such as the AutoLink AL319 for about $60 or it's more capable sibling, the AL419, for about $100. These do a really nice job providing codes, freeze frame data, code clearing, inspection readiness and live vehicle data. Check out aeswave.com for detailed descriptions and a variety of scan tool and other diagnostic equipment choices.

After tangling scan tool cables about my knees for the past 30 years and replacing obsolete hardware, I like the idea of a robust wireless interface that can plug into the data link connector and communicate more professionally with my smartphone or tablet, which have significantly nicer displays than most inexpensive scan tools.

I recently tested such a device called the Blue Driver. This is a tiny Bluetooth interface device that plugs into the under-dash data link connector and uses well-designed software that's downloaded to your personal device. I found the setup to be easy and the pairing to be much more reliable than the Elm 327 devices. The Blue Driver software is easy to navigate, friendly enough for a vehicle owner as well as techie enough for a professional technician looking for convenient onboard diagnostic information and domestic air bag, transmission enhanced codes.

Beyond code definitions, it lists possible causes and frequent reported fixes as well as mode 6 info (this is techie test results, understood by a pro).

Another surprise I found was when I selected "vehicle information," is that it brought up an impressive amount of coverage for recalls, maintenance intervals, service bulletins and specifications for that particular vehicle. The app connects to the web to retrieve this information as it is not contained within the vehicle.

I particularly like how the inspection readiness monitors are listed and any reasons why an emissions test is or isn't going to be successful. The live data display includes a bar graph, which is useful, although it could use a little higher resolution. There is also a viewing option for each data parameter that appears in analog gauge format. This is a great way of looking at rapidly changing values such as fuel trims, but the scales chosen for the gauges could use a little tuning to make them more useful.

Of all of the $100 and under scan tool devices that I have looked at, I preferred the Blue Driver for its reliable cordless interface, use of my display hardware, and consumer/technician-friendly software.

Life & Style

‘Turtles’ sequel underwhelms, women drive ‘Me Before You’

AP

This image released by Paramount Pictures shows, from left, Donatello, Michelangelo, Leonardo and Raphael in a scene from “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows.”

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Turtle power isn’t all that strong the second time around, according to comScore estimates Sunday, but not all is bleak at the box office. While many of the season’s sequels continue to struggle, the healthy debut of the romantic drama “Me Before You” proved that there is room for more than superheroes in the summer.

“Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows” won the box office, but its estimated $35.3 million debut is not exactly cause for a celebratory pizza party. The $135 million production from Paramount Pictures and Nickelodeon Movies comes just two years after the studios rebooted the property. The 2014 movie performed surprisingly well—opening to $65.6 million and going on to gross $493.3 million worldwide—despite lackluster reviews.

While lower in turnout, those who did show up liked this film far better than the first, according to exit polls. “Out of the Shadows” doubles down on the fan elements with the introduction of a number of villains from the ‘80s cartoon. But it was a bit too late for some who turned out for the first. The studio noticed a drop in attendance from the “nostalgia” audience of 25 to 34-year-olds this time around.

“You have to work a little bit harder to get people to a property if they didn’t feel that we hit the fan beats as hard on the last movie as this movie does,” said Megan Colligan, Paramount’s President of Worldwide Distribution and Marketing. Colligan is hopeful that word of mouth will play a part in getting the audiences they lost back to the theater.

“Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 2” is just the latest in a string of underwhelming openings for sequels this summer movie season, which runs from the first weekend in May through Labor Day. Some of the lackluster showings include “Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising,” ‘’Alice Through the Looking Glass,” and even “X-Men: Apocalypse,” which fell a hefty 66 percent in its second weekend in theaters, earning $22.3 million for a second-place finish.

“When we’ve had this many sequels in a row not performing well in an industry where sequels are king, that’s disconcerting,” said Paul Dergarabedian, comScore’s Senior Media Analyst. “What people want is good movies. If they truly deliver, I don’t think there’s a stigma against sequels.”

In a marketplace saturated with sequels, the romantic tearjerker “Me Before You” stood out from the pack and performed quite well because of it, earning $18.3 million for a third-place finish. The film, based on Jojo Moyes’ bestselling novel, has gotten mixed reviews from critics, but audiences, who were 81 percent female and 53 percent over the age of 35 gave the film a solid A CinemaScore.

Warner Bros. distributed the film, a co-production between MGM and New Line Cinema which cost a reported $20 million to produce.

“We looked at a busy marketplace and said ‘where is there a movie for older females and younger females? Let’s put it right against the more male-driven, superhero, four quadrant movies. Zero in on the female demographic,’” said Jeff Goldstein, executive vice president of Domestic Distribution for Warner Bros. “We were hoping to do somewhere between $13 and $15 million. It’s a big win for us.”

Meanwhile, the Lonely Island mockumentary “Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping,” earned a disappointing $4.6 million to take eighth place. Critics liked the film, but audiences were less enthusiastic, giving the satirical comedy a B CinemaScore.

“We wish that it was grossing more, but our critical response is really good on the film and we have been able to reach our core male audience,” said Nick Carpou, Universal’s President of Domestic Distribution.

While things have slowed down at the box office since the summer kicked off so strongly with “Captain America: Civil War” in early May, the year is still up some 5 percent. Dergarabedian thinks that things will get back on track soon, especially with more promising sequels like “The Conjuring 2,” ‘’Finding Dory,” and “Jason Bourne” on the horizon.

“We can’t blame it all on sequel-itis,” Dergarabedian said. “I don’t think anyone cares what the title is, what number the movie is, as long as the movie really delivers.”

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to comScore. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. **“Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows,”** $35.3 million ($34 million international).
2. **“X-Men: Apocalypse,”** $22.3 million ($84.4 million international).
3. **“Me Before You,”** $18.3 million ($7.7 million international).
4. **“Alice Through the Looking Glass,”** $10.7 million ($30.9 million international).
5. **“The Angry Birds Movie,”** $9.8 million ($16.7. million international)
6. **“Captain America: Civil War,”** $7.6 million (4.2 million international).
7. **“Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising,”** $4.7 million ($2.4 million international).
8. **“Popstar: Never Stop Never Stopping,”** $4.6 million.
9. **“The Jungle Book,”** $4.2 million ($3.7 million international).
10. **“The Nice Guys,”** $3.5 million ($5.5 million international).

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to comScore:

1. **“X-Men: Apocalypse,”** $84.4 million.
2. **“Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows,”** $34 million.
3. **“Alice Through the Looking Glass,”** $30.9 million.
4. **“Warcraft,”** $29.9 million.
5. **“The Angry Birds Movie,”** $16.7 million.
6. **“The Handmaiden,”** $10.8 million.
7. **“Money Monster,”** $8.3 million.
8. **“Me Before You,”** $7.7 million.
9. **“Deadpool,”** $6.5 million.
10. **“The Nice Guys,”** $5.5 million.

Would teens be slimmer if Katy Perry hawked kale & quinoa?

CHICAGO (AP)—Would U.S. teens be any slimmer if Katy Perry hawked kale and quinoa?

New research doesn’t prove a link, but its authors think music stars popular with teens may be contributing to the obesity epidemic by endorsing fatty fast food, snacks and soda.

The study shows that 20 of the hottest teen-music heartthrobs have done TV ads or other promotions for products nutritionists consider unhealthy.

Of 107 food and drink endorsements included in the study, few were for nutritious foods, the researchers said. Lead author Marie Bragg, a food policy and obesity researcher at New York University, singled out one “natural whole-food product.” That was South Korean pop star Psy’s “crackin’ gangnam-style” TV ad for Wonderful pistachios, shown during the Super Bowl in 2013.

AP

This combination of 2011, 2015 and 2016 photos shows will.i.am, Katy Perry and Justin Timberlake. A study published Monday, June 6, 2016 in the journal Pediatrics shows that 20 of the hottest teen-music heartthrobs have done TV ads or other promotions for products nutritionists consider unhealthy.

About 80 percent of celebrity-endorsed food ads were high-calorie products including snack chips and chocolate, or fast-food restaurants including McDonalds, Chili’s and A&W. Most of the beverage ads were for sugary sodas.

The list includes Perry endorsements for Pepsi and Popchips; Justin Timberlake ads or promotions for Chili’s, McDonald’s and Pepsi; and will.i.am ads or campaigns linked with Coca-Cola, Doritos, Dr. Pepper and Pepsi.

The study was published Monday in the journal Pediatrics.

Ads can influence behavior, and the researchers say the results have important implications, given the nation’s high obesity rates. Government statistics show that about 20 percent of U.S. teens are obese and even more are overweight.

“Celebrities should leverage their influence to promote more healthful messages,” the researchers said.

They selected music performers who have appeared on Teen Choice Award shows and who had hits on the Billboard Hot 100 Charts in 2013 and 2014. They included ads from 2000 to 2014.

They cited previous studies linking food and beverage marketing with excess eating and childhood obesity. Bragg noted a 2013 study from Australia that found sports celebrity endorsements influenced 11-year-old boys to buy fast food.

Bragg said it would be unrealistic to expect teens to only eat healthy foods, or to ask celebrities to only endorse those products. She said “moderation” and “a better balance” of ads would be ideal.

Ali became world citizen but never forgot his hometown roots

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Muhammad Ali traveled the world as a fighter and humanitarian, but he always came home to Louisville.

His Kentucky hometown was where Ali, as a gangly teenager, began to develop his boxing skills—the dazzling footwork and rapid-fire punching prowess. The three-time world heavyweight boxing champion never forgot his roots, returning to his old West End neighborhood and visiting high school classmates even after becoming one of the world's most recognizable men.

Now the focus shifts back to Ali's hometown as the world says goodbye to the man who emerged from humble beginnings to rub elbows with heads of state.

Ali, slowed for years by Parkinson's disease, died Friday at age 74 in an Arizona hospital. His funeral is scheduled for Friday afternoon in Louisville.

Ali chose his hometown as the place for one of his lasting legacies: the Muhammad Ali Center, which promotes his humanitarian ideals and showcases his remarkable career. Ali and his wife, Lonnie, had multiple residences around the U.S., but always maintained a Louisville home.

The city embraced its favorite son right back. A downtown street bears his name. A banner showcasing his face—and proclaiming him "Louisville's Ali"—towers over motorists near the city's riverfront.

Lifelong friend Victor Bender knew Ali ever since they were boyhood sparring partners. Bender remembered Ali—then known as Cassius Clay—as a dedicated athlete who worked tirelessly to hone his boxing skills.

He also remembered Ali's human touch—his willingness to reach out to others.

"Only health changed him," Bender said in a September 2014 interview. "When he was healthy enough, he could talk with anybody. He loved children. He'd reach out and touch anybody, because he loved people.

"Sometimes his handlers would say, 'Look, we've got to go. We've got to meet the schedule.' And he'd say, 'The schedule will have to wait.'"

AP

Boxing gloves and a message sit among flowers at a makeshift memorial to Muhammad Ali at the Muhammad Ali Center, Saturday, June 4, 2016, in Louisville, Ky.

Ruby Hyde remembered the heavyweight champ cruising into her neighborhood in a Cadillac with the top down. "All the kids jumped in and he rode them around the block," she remembered.

Ali's boyhood home—a small, single-story frame house—still stands in the working-class neighborhood where he grew up. The bright pink home on Grand Avenue was renovated by its current owners and opened for Ali's fans to get a glimpse into his life before the world came to know him.

Ali's storybook boxing career—highlighted by epic bouts with Joe Frazier, George Foreman and Sonny Liston—began with a theft.

His bicycle was stolen when he was 12. Wanting to report the crime, the shaken boy was introduced to Joe Martin, a police officer who doubled as a boxing coach at a local gym. Ali told Martin he wanted to whip the culprit. The thief was never found, nor was the bike, but soon the feisty Ali was a regular in Martin's gym.

"He always had a good left-hand punch," Bender recalled. "He could follow up. The fundamentals were always there."

Ali developed into a top amateur boxer. His early workouts included racing a school bus along the streets of Louisville, said Shirlee Smith, his classmate at Louisville Central High School.

"Every time the bus would stop to pick up kids, he would pass us up," she recalled. "Then we'd pass him up. Everybody on the bus would be laughing and teasing him. He was training at that time, and we were just having fun. But he was focused on what he wanted."

Ali's boyhood neighbor, Lawrence Montgomery Sr., said he saw early glimpses of the bravado that earned Ali the "Louisville Lip" nickname.

"He told me then that he was going to be the heavyweight champion of the world, and I didn't believe him," Montgomery said. "I told him, 'Man, you better get that out of your mind.' But he succeeded. He followed through."

Not long after graduating from high school, Ali won a gold medal at the 1960 Olympics in Rome.

Smith remembered Ali as a happy-go-lucky classmate who wasn't changed by fame. She recalled the class reunion when Ali performed magic tricks.

"He never had any airs or any pretense," she said. "He was just Muhammad Ali."

Ali announced his conversion to the Muslim faith soon after upsetting Liston in 1964 to win the heavyweight crown for the first time. Ali moved away in the early 1960s but never lost contact with Louisville.

The Ali Center includes exhibits recalling the turbulent 1960s that Ali came to personify. Ali was refused service at a Louisville restaurant after he returned home as an Olympic gold medal winner. Other exhibits recall Ali's role as a civil rights supporter and opponent of the Vietnam War.

Louisvillians embraced him as their own again as they mourned his passing. They flocked to the Ali Center and to his boyhood home along with out-of-town visitors paying their respects.

Former Destiny Child's member arrested outside Atlanta

TUCKER, Ga. (AP)—A former member of the R&B group Destiny's Child has been arrested after being accused of drunkenly arguing with a man outside an Atlanta-area gym.

Citing a police report, news outlets say 35-year-old Farrah Franklin was arrested early Thursday in DeKalb County on public intoxication charges and marijuana possession charges.

Police say Franklin smelled of alcohol, had bloodshot eyes and slurred speech. Authorities say they discovered a green, leafy substance in Franklin's purse they believe to be marijuana.

It is unclear whether Franklin has an attorney to comment on the charges.

Franklin and Michelle Williams joined Destiny's Child to replace two original members in 2000. Franklin left the group months later and the remaining trio helped launch the solo careers of Williams, Kelly Rowland and Beyonce.

Taylor Swift gives surprise show at fan's wedding reception

LONG BEACH TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP)—New Jersey newlyweds got an unexpected gift at their wedding reception: a performance by Taylor Swift.

The superstar played a stripped down version of her song "Blank Space" at Max Singer and Kenya Smith's reception in Long Beach Township on Saturday as amazed guests looked on and sang along.

Swift agreed to attend after getting a letter in April from the groom's sister.

She wrote about how her brother was a huge fan and how he and their ailing mother had danced to Swift's song after the newlyweds were married in a hospital room. Singer's mother died shortly thereafter.

Swift had contacted Singer's sister and they planned the surprise visit.

Swift also presented the couple a special card that stated: "So It's Gonna Be Forever," a lyric from "Blank Space."

Daughter struggles to help frustrated widowed mother

DEAR ABBY: Mom is 61. She lost her husband (my dad) six months ago. They had been married for 37 years. He used to do almost everything for her. Now her world has changed because she must do things for herself—like doing the dishes or paying the bills.

When we talk, she constantly complains about tasks that have the simplest of solutions. If I offer advice, she gets defensive and says, "Fine! Tell me how I should live my life." I have reached the conclusion that she doesn't want advice, but she continues to complain and be upset. My siblings and I don't live close by. How can we help her?

CARING DAUGHTER IN COLORADO

DEAR DAUGHTER: Six months ago, your mother lost half of her "self." Tasks that seem ordinary to you are still new to her. Resist the urge to help with advice unless you are specifically asked. And recognize that when she complains, rather than looking for advice, she may be venting about her pain and frustration.

DEAR ABBY: I often see parents "help" their elementary school-age kids violate safety laws. For example, if they are running late, they'll hurry their kids across an intersection against the flashing red hand signal, or jaywalk across the middle of a busy street instead of going to the corner. This saves them about two minutes.

I also see parents watch their kids playing on their skateboards right under a sign that says "No skateboards." These kids are old enough to read and understand the signs and signals.

Sometimes I call out to the parent, "Nice job teaching your kids how to get away with something!" or, "I hope your kids remind you about this when they are teenagers and want to do something stupid!" The parents always ignore me. Can you suggest a better comment I can yell out?

DON IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DON: What you are witnessing is regrettable. However, my advice is to keep your mouth shut, because you're not going to teach parents like the ones you have described anything with a shout-out.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have an ongoing disagreement. He said I should write to you to see what you thought.

When we're in a group, I say it's rude to make plans that don't include others who are standing with us. He has no problem with it. I'm uncomfortable discussing where to go for dinner with four members of a group when others are standing beside us. He says I am too sensitive and too easily embarrassed. What do you think?

DISAGREEMENT IN OHIO

DEAR DISAGREEMENT: I don't think that you are too sensitive. While discussing where to go for dinner in front of people who haven't been invited isn't "rude," it is insensitive because they may feel excluded.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

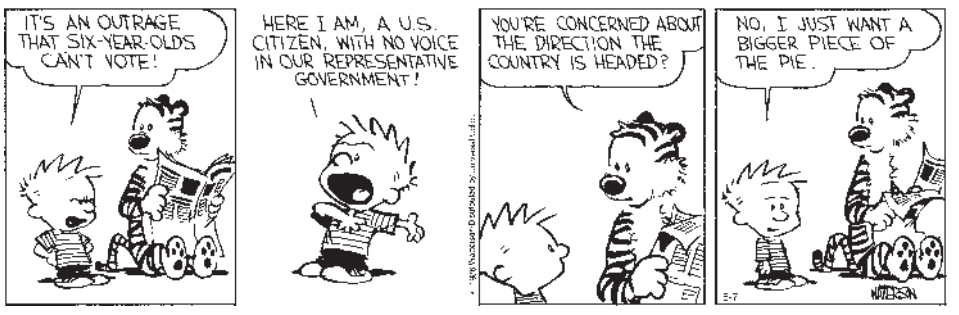
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

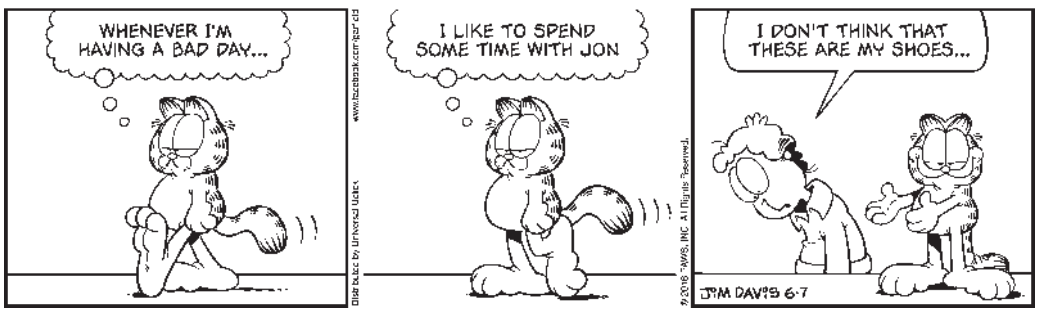
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


IT'S AN OUTRAGE THAT SIX-YEAR-OLDS CAN'T VOTE!
HERE I AM, A U.S. CITIZEN, WITH NO VOICE IN OUR REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT!
YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT THE DIRECTION THE COUNTRY IS HEADED?
NO, I JUST WANT A BIGGER PIECE OF THE PIE.
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT IF YOU DROP YOUR LAPTOP IN THE WATER?
AH. I'M VERY CAREFUL. I HAVE A NO-SKID SURFACE ON MY LITTLE DESK HERE.
PLUS I SPRAYED IT WITH THAT WATER-PROOFING SPRAY I GOT FOR MY SHOES.
IS THAT A JOKE?
AS FAR AS YOU KNOW, DEAR. AS FAR AS YOU KNOW.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Leeway
5 French vineyard
8 Offend
12 Thomas — Edison
13 Cariou of "Blue Bloods"
14 Days gone by
15 Winter woe
17 Undo a dele
18 Help
19 Will subject
21 — cum laude
24 Intro studio class
25 Buffalo's lake
26 Remain calm
30 "Bad" cholesterol
31 Petrify
32 Madrid Mrs.
33 Tepid
35 Diner orders
36 Sitarist Shankar
37 Perch
38 New Orleans campus
41 Work unit
42 God of war
43 Mediocre
48 "Got it"
49 Roscoe
50 Mexican entree
51 Colleen
52 Historic time
53 "The Thin Man" dog

DOWN

1 Fan's cry
2 Flamenco cheer
3 Lab eggs
4 "— Bovary"
5 Lummox
6 Seminary subj.
7 Deodorant area
8 Spiritualist
9 Teeny bit
10 Worry
11 Lavish party
16 Spy org.
20 Eyelid woe
21 Vend
22 Pakistan language
23 Moo juice
24 Arcade pioneer
26 Go dumpster diving
27 Norwegian seaport
28 Scraps
29 Endure
31 Cygnet's parent
34 Obliterates
35 Colombia's capital
37 Train lines (Abbr.)
38 Follow
39 — Major
40 Sediment
41 Sicilian peak
44 Owned by us
45 Owns
46 Calendar abbr.
47 Ode title starter

Solution time: 22 mins.

B	A	G		P	S	H	A	W		S	A	G
O	R	E		O	P	E	R	A		I	R	E
S	I	L	K	W	O	R	M	S		L	E	A
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B	E	N	G	A	L		O	V	A			
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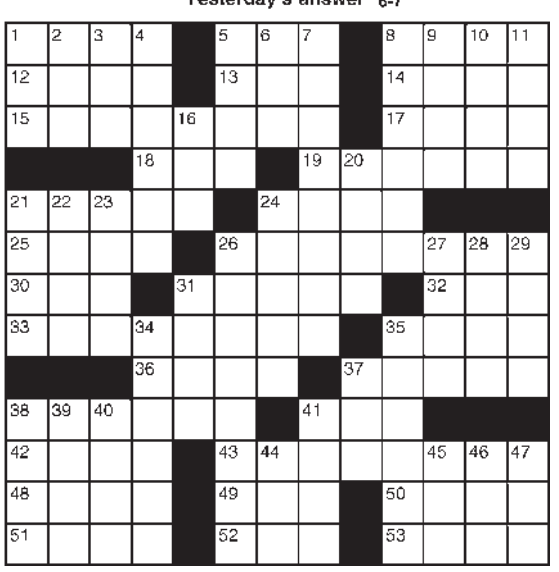
Yesterday's answer 6-7



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Iggy Azalea, 26; Michael Cera, 28; Bill Hader, 38; Liam Neeson, 64.

Happy Birthday: You need to take more time out for yourself. Focus on any personal changes you want to make. Stepping back from situations that are less than satisfactory will help you see clearly and allow you greater freedom to rethink and restart. Protect against indulgence and letting others influence you. Be the master of your own life and determine what's best for you. Your numbers are 4, 17, 24, 27, 31, 37, 45.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Take care of personal matters on your own. Interference will leave a sour taste in your mouth. The more self-sufficient you are, the easier it will be to make decisions that will benefit you. A physical change is best handled cautiously. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Observe and respond. A partnership has the potential to grow into a successful collaboration. Share your plans with friends, relatives and those who will be affected by your decisions. An opportunity to advance is heading your way. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't count on receiving help from others. Prepare and organize how you want to execute your future plans and do so on your own. Someone you know will be all talk and no action. Look out for your own best interests. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): The more cooperative you are, the easier it will be to manufacture the scenario you want to see unfold. Speak from the heart and others will take notice. A unique look at an old idea will spark an opportunity to forge ahead. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Take care of your personal interests and responsibilities. If you leave your affairs to someone else, you will be disappointed. Bring about personal changes that will enable you to gain better control of future prospects. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Get involved in group endeavors or situations that will provide you with the information necessary to make quality moves. Refuse to let anyone control your life or dominate your time. Take responsibility for your own actions, not someone else's. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Strive for personal perfection in all that you do, and you'll make it impossible for anyone to make you look bad. A serious approach will enable you to make personal choices that are in your best interests. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Listen and learn. Take part in community events or other cultural activities that will open your eyes to how others live. Residential changes will bring about positive changes and inspiration. Share your plans with someone you love. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You will have to watch your spending and avoid sharing personal information with people who may wish to pry into your affairs. Don't mistake snooping for gestures of friendliness. Size up situations based on facts. Romantic encounters are best handled carefully. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Keep life lively. Speak up, share thoughts and express what's on your agenda. You can make a difference in your personal and professional dealings if you strive for equality, understanding and cooperation. Set guidelines and stick to them. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Do what you enjoy most. Concentrate on home, family and turning something you do into a moneymaking pastime. A change in the way you make a living will lift your spirits and help build your confidence. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Helping others is an act of kindness, but before you offer assistance, find out what's required. Someone is likely to take advantage of you if you don't ask questions or understand what is being offered. Protect your assets. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are astute and versatile. You are a flirt and a risk-taker.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

9					3			2
	7			5			9	
		1	9			5		
6			7		5	2		
	8			4			1	
		9	1		2			7
		8			9	3		
	4			7			5	
7			8					6

Difficulty Level ★★ 6/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	8	5	2	4	7	9	6	1
7	1	6	9	5	8	2	4	3
4	2	9	1	3	6	7	8	5
8	3	4	7	9	2	5	1	6
5	6	2	8	1	3	4	9	7
1	9	7	4	6	5	8	3	2
6	4	3	5	7	9	1	2	8
9	7	8	6	2	1	3	5	4
2	5	1	3	8	4	6	7	9

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MARIE ANTOINETTE'S HAIR Solution: 10 letters

R	C	Y	T	O	W	E	R	S	T	R	A	N	D	S
O	I	U	B	Y	N	Z	B	R	A	I	D	S	E	E
S	C	B	D	U	P	U	I	L	E	S	S	E	V	M
E	L	A	B	O	R	A	T	E	D	N	E	L	A	U
T	L	R	U	O	N	G	N	U	O	I	O	E	W	L
T	A	F	U	G	N	O	C	I	T	N	T	L	I	P
E	T	O	L	C	R	H	H	U	G	T	R	Y	R	O
F	N	E	N	H	E	S	A	N	A	A	T	T	E	I
T	E	Y	T	S	U	D	I	M	P	I	N	S	S	F
N	M	A	S	C	R	P	Y	R	A	M	I	D	R	A
A	I	T	T	A	A	N	N	A	H	O	J	A	E	S
F	T	R	N	H	E	R	I	S	S	O	N	P	I	H
N	N	O	S	S	E	U	Q	O	T	C	O	N	T	I
E	E	H	P	A	R	R	O	T	E	T	I	H	W	O
L	S	S	A	H	P	E	S	O	J	Q	U	E	E	N

©2016 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Download the Wonderword Game App! 6/7

Braids, Bun, Curls, Cushions, Cut, Duchess, Dusty, Elaborate, Fashion, Feather, France, Gauze, Herisson, Johanna, Josepha, Lady, L'Enfant, Leonard Autie, Long, Matte, Pads, Parrot, Pins, Plumes, Pouf, Pyramid, Queen, Ribbon, Rosette, Ruby, Sentimental, Shaping, Short, Strands, Style, Throne, Tiers, Toques, Tower, Triangle, Vessel, Waved, White, Wire

Yesterday's Answer: Relationships

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 or 47**, order online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

1 Operation Manager $9.72/hr. and (2) Camera Operators, Television, Video and Motion Picture $6.05/hr. Mail to Saipan TV Production. PMB 272 Box 10000 Saipan.

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1 Commercial Cleaner
1 General Maintenance. 3-5 years experience with valid driver's license. Police Clearance required. Email resume to San Vicente Estates at cisco.cnmi@yahoo.com.

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1 Building & Grounds Maintenance. $6.05/hr. Mail resume to Pacific International Marianas, Inc. dba Midway Motors. P.O. Box 500887 Saipan MP 96950.

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1 Electrician $6.05/hr. Mail resume to C&H Saipan, Inc. P.O. Box 501608 Saipan, MP 96950.

FOR LEASE

Land for Lease: 1,670 sq. meters in San Antonio. Located very close to PIC. Call 785-0880 for more info.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Auto Mechanic

High School graduate, with at least one year experience as auto mechanic, salary will commensurate with qualifications & experience. Please apply personally with resume & police clearance at **Dream Plan Action dba DPA Car Mart,** San Antonio, Saipan MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 235-8688

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
HYUN CORPORATION

(1) Accountant/Office Manager

Min. of 5 years experience on Accounting and office management. With good command in English and Korean. Must provide own transportation. Can work on flexible hours. Send resume to sylviacnmi@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

2 Cook

With 2-3 years experience
Willing to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to
JNJ CORPORATION
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement

4 Sales Associate–Minimum 3 years work experience.
1 Store Manager–Minimum 5 years work related experience.

Must be able to consistently demonstrate customer service. Preferably knows how to speak and read Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours.

1 Accountant–Must have a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. Minimum 5 years work experience. Proficient in MYOB/AccountEdge Premium Accounting Software, MS Word, Excel. Effective oral and written communication skills.

Applicants should mail their resume to PMB 1118 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or email saipanbest07@gmail.com. American Saipan Best Corporation dba Saipan Best Shopping Market.

JOBEL CORPORATION
PO BOX 505223, SAIPAN MP 96950
TEL: 256-4532

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

1 ASSISTANT TEACHER

Compensation of $6.05 per hour paid bi-weekly subject to deductions of taxes and other withholdings as required by law.

1. Work Schedule: Monday through Friday, total of 32 – 40 hours per work week and subject to change.
2. Entitlement to overtime pay with current hourly rate x 1.5% if total hours exceed 40 hours per work week.
3. Workers Compensation

Job Description
- Assist students in classrooms, halls, cafeterias, school yards, and gymnasiums
- Must be able to communicate effectively
- Must have 2 years of experience working with small children.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Commercial Cleaner

- Must have 5+ years experience cleaning offices, restaurants, businesses, and residences.
- ONLY US residents are eligible to apply.
- Must be comfortable working around and cleaning up after dogs and cats.
- Will be cleaning windows, must not be afraid of heights.
- Very good with house plants and accountable for own scheduling

Call 256-1041 (6:30-8:30pm)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Wanted Home Furnishing Purchaser/Retailer

- Must be able to show experiences selecting, purchasing and arranging shipment of fine ceramics, furniture and other home furnishings from SE Asia
- Must have +5 years experience in the retail business.
- Must be fluent in Vietnamese, and English with some familiarity with Thai.
- ONLY US residents are eligible to apply.

Please call 256-1041 after 5:00pm to apply.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(7) Cook
(4) Waiter/Waitress
(1) Restaurant Manager

Applicants should have a minimum 3 years work related experience. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, preferably knows how to speak Chinese and Japanese. Flexible working hours.

(1) Maintenance Technician

Minimum 3 years work related experience. Flexible working hours.

Please mail resume to
PMB 373 Box 10003, MP 96950 or email newsic426@gmail.com.
New Star International Corporation dba Mura Ichiban Restaurant.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

It is the policy of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to limit hiring to qualified US workers, as restricted by CNMI law, and that equal opportunity be given to all qualified US worker applicants regardless of age, sex or sexual orientation, religion, marital status, political status, veterans status, disability or place of origin.

Opening Date: 05/24/16 **Closing Date: 06/13/16***

JVA#15-007: **Marketing Specialist I**
Annual Salary: $17,700.92 – $18,584.42**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#15-008: **Community Projects Coordinator I**
Annual Salary: $17,700.92 - $18,584.42**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#15-010: **Procurement Officer**
Annual Salary: $24,889.35 - $31,757.68**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#15-012: **Tour Guide Certification Manager**
Annual Salary: $30,000.00 - $40,000.00**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

JVA#16-001: **Tradesman**
Annual Salary: $11,278.940 - $14,388.82
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Tinian

JVA#16-002: **Special Assistant to the Managing Director**
Annual Salary: $25,000.00 - $30,000.00**
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

*If not filled, the vacancy announcement will be continued and applications will be reviewed every two weeks thereafter until the search is closed. Deadlines that fall on a non-business day will be extended to the next business day.
** The salary given will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee.

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 for more detailed information on position description. A completed application must be submitted together with the required documents for consideration until search is closed. A resume may be attached, but the application form must be filled out in full. MVA is an equal opportunity employer.

WHATZIT Solution: Don't answer back

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 Marine Sports Instructor
1 Computer Technician
1 Mechanic

With 2-3 years experience
willing to work on flexible hours.
Please send resume to
AQUATIC MARINE CO. INC.
PMB 114 Box 10002, Saipan MP 96950

Wanted - Commercial cleaner for diving business on Rota. Five years experience, high school diploma, 2 letters of recommendation from former employers and police clearance required. Minimum salary. Position starts on October 2, 2016. Call 532-3423 for interview.

REQ Day & Night Child Care

Job Vacancy Announcement

(3) Day Care Workers
- CCDF or DCCA Certification Required
- Willing to work flexible hours
- Must be reliable
- Medical Background is a plus
- Three years' experience in Child Care

(3) Teachers
- BSE/ED Graduate
- Three years' experience in head start, pre-school and afterschool teaching
- Must be computer literate
- Must have tutorial experience
- Certification in tutorial is a plus.

Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

If interested, please email resume to reqchildcare@yahoo.com

Misamis Construction

Now Hiring

- (02) Construction Supervisor
- (20) Carpenters
- (20) Masons
- (10) Painters
- (10) Electricians
- (10) Steel Workers-Welders
- (10) Plumbers
- (04) Heavy Equipment Operators
- (10) Building Maintenance Repairers
- (03) AC Technicians
- (02) Landscapers

Two years experience required and must be certified
Police Clearance Required

Local applicants are encouraged to apply – Please call 235-5238 or visit our office in Chalan Kanoa.
Email: misamisconstruction@yahoo.com

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Key Functions:
The Executive Assistant will help the Executive Officer and the President maintain organizational relationships and act as the main point of contact particularly for business partners and customers in and from China, as well as colleagues and peers in the local Chinese Community. The Executive Assistant should support the management of the President's time and calendar to ensure that the President is fully informed and prepared for all meetings with such stakeholders and to assist in organizing events. The Executive Assistant should be highly organized, able to multi-task and manage multiple time-sensitive demands, have exceptional inter-personal and communication skills and support the mission of the organization. This professional must possess a combination of strategic thinking skills and the demonstrated ability to implement and manage the daily logistical demands of a project centered staffs who work cross functionally to respond to the needs of the organization and its constituents.

Job Requirements:
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and/or Information Technology. With excellent English and Chinese communication skills both oral and written. Must possess experience in MS Office suite. One-year related experience in administrative type functions an advantage. Service-oriented, with strong organizational skills, active listening and active learning is required. Must be open to a variety of responsibilities, changing assignments, and be an overall team player.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. Human Resources office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, June 15, 2016.

L&T Group of Companies, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Cosmos Distributing Co. (Spn) Ltd. Is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following postions:

Sales Representatives (2)
Associate's degree in Sales & Marketing or Accounting with minimum of 3 years experience in sales. Proven skills in product marketing and providing excellent customer service are required. Must be proficient in MS Excel and Word for preparation of reports and Outlook for email. Must provide for his/her own reliable transportation for out-of-office work activities and must also be able to meet monthly sales targets. Applicant needs to be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Extensive contacts in various businesses and industries are advantage. Available to work on evenings, holidays, weekends.

Sales Representatives – Hospitality Industry and Lubricants
A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful sales record. Preferably with Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing. Sales experience with hotel, F&B, and restaurants together with knowledge of their inventory and supply operations an advantage. Knowledge of petroleum lubricants is a plus. Proven good tract records in product marketing and excellent customer service are required. Must be proficient in MS Excel and Word for preparation of report and Outlook for email. Must provide for his/her own reliable transportation for out-of-office work activities and must also be able to meet monthly sales targets. Applicant needs to be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Extensive contacts in various businesses and industries are advantage. Available to work on evenings, holidays, weekends.

Business Operations Manager
Graduate of 4-year Business or Accounting course and at least 6 years of progressive management experience in wholesaling and product distribution. Minimum of 5 years general management experience in warehouse, sales, purchasing and distribution activities. Must be proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, MAS90/Sage Accounting Software and Microsoft software. Must have a solid track record in meeting business objective.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment. Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experiences. For applications to be considered, they should be sent to hrd@cosmosdistributing.com not later than June 15, 2016.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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Warriors whip Cavaliers anew to take 2-0 lead

AP
Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) shoots against Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James during the first half of Game 2 of basketball's NBA Finals in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, June 5, 2016.

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Draymond Green emphatically flexed his bulging biceps with big plays on both ends of the floor, and these Golden State Warriors might just be far too strong for the Cleveland Cavaliers.

That repeat title Golden State has spoken of since the very start more than eight months ago is suddenly two wins from reality.

It will be the only way the Warriors' record-setting season ends right. For now, they sure seem unstoppable.

Green had 28 points with five 3-pointers, seven rebounds and five assists, while MVP Stephen Curry scored 18 points despite foul trouble, and Golden State thoroughly overwhelmed Cleveland 110-77 in Game 2 of the NBA Finals on Sunday night.

"There's no point in celebrating or jumping up and down saying, 'Look at us.' We're two games away from winning a championship, but we still have to go out and get the job done," Curry said. "It's a trap to think that we've figured things out, that we have the perfect formula to beat Cleveland and they have no chance in the series. That's not how we're supposed to think."

The 33-point win was the Warriors' most lopsided ever in a finals game—and they have won the first two by a combined 48 points.

"They just beat us," LeBron James said. "We didn't win anything. No points of the game did we beat them in anything."

Once the Splash Brothers found their shooting touch, Cleveland couldn't keep up. Klay Thompson got hot after halftime to finish with 17 points as Golden State became the first team to go ahead 2-0 in the finals since the Lakers in 2009 against Orlando.

Now, the series shifts to Cleveland, and James and the Cavs must show up for Game 3 on Wednesday in front of their title-starved fans down 2-0 to the defending champs and with forward Kevin Love dealing with a head injury.

"We've got to be tougher," Cavs coach Tyronn Lue said.

The NBA said Love experienced dizziness early in the second half and left for the locker room to be re-examined, then was placed in the NBA's concussion protocol. He hadn't exhibited any symptoms before then, even after taking an elbow to the back of the head from Harrison Barnes in the second quarter and going down for several minutes before returning following a timeout. He immediately made a baseline 3-pointer for the Cavs' first basket in nearly 5½ minutes.

After a scoreless first quarter when he missed all five shots but had five assists, James scored 14 of his 19 points in the second and also finished with nine assists and eight rebounds, but seven turnovers—and he took the blame. James' teams had won nine straight postseason Game 2s after losing the series opener dating back to a loss in the 2008 Eastern Conference semifinals to Boston.

"I'm definitely surprised at the margin of victory tonight," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "It happens in the NBA, sometimes things get away from you. Sometimes shots go in, sometimes they don't. ... Everything changes when we go to Cleveland, we know that."

After Curry and Thompson combined for only 20 points in Thursday's 104-89 Game 1 win on 8-for-27 shooting and the bench carried the load, they each hit four 3-pointers and went 13 for 24. And Curry got a postgame treat: He exchanged jerseys with Barcelona and Brazil soccer star Neymar.

Green shot 11 for 20 and made 5 of 8 3-pointers, sparking a suggestion he might apply to be a Splash Brother alongside fellow All-Stars Curry and Thompson.

"Stop it," Green said with a chuckle.

"Tonight, he's one of us," Thompson said.

The Warriors' 87 victories matched the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls, the team Golden State topped for the most regular-season victories in NBA history with 73.

Andrew Bogut had four of his five blocks—Golden State had nine overall - in the first 7:15 and received a standing ovation when he came out with 3:50 left in the first. He went to the locker room late in the quarter after having hit his hand on the rim early and grimacing in pain.

Green credited the defense for holding down James and Co.

While the outspoken swingman insists he just wants rings and isn't yet ready to consider the Warriors among the best of all time, the typically quiet Thompson let loose a little.

"We're better than the Showtime Lakers," he quipped, a friendly jab at former power forward father, Mychal.

William McGirt wins Memorial in a playoff

DUBLIN, Ohio (AP)—William McGirt thought he hit it big when he won the Cabarrus Classic and pocketed $16,000, the second-largest prize on the Tar Heel Tour.

That was in 2007, and it felt like a lifetime ago compared with the perks from winning the Memorial on Sunday.

The victory was worth $1.53 million and a three-year exemption for a guy who once dreamed of simply having a PGA Tour card.

Waiting to congratulate him was tournament host Jack Nicklaus, who raved about the bunker shot on the 18th hole that kept McGirt in the playoff at Muirfield Village, and the flop shot from behind the 18th green that led to a 6-foot putt and his first PGA Tour victory in his 165th try.

U.S. Open qualifying? Take the day off.

McGirt moves up to No. 43 in the world and was assured a spot in his first national championship.

"It will all sink in at some point," McGirt said.

This was a long time coming.

McGirt couldn't count all the mini-tours he played and the self-doubts he ignored, including a four-month stretch in which he only saw his wife for four days. But on Sunday against the strongest field of the year for a regular PGA Tour event, McGirt made his first victory one to remember.

He played the final 22 holes at Muirfield Village without a bogey. His final par in regulation was the most important, a two-putt from 65 feet for a 1-under 71 that allowed him to join Jon Curran (70) in a playoff at 15-under 273.

McGirt won the way Nicklaus said he captured so many of his 73 times on the PGA Tour.

Dustin Johnson dropped three shots in four holes to start the back nine, and a fourth bogey on the 16th ended it for him. Matt Kuchar was tied for the lead when he returned from a 90-minute rain delay and promptly hit the lip of a fairway bunker and made double bogey. He never recovered. Emiliano Grillo had a share of the lead until starting the back nine with four straight bogeys. Gary Woodland couldn't get up-and-down behind the 17th green and made bogey.

Johnson finished alone in third—his fifth finish in the top 5 this season—while Rory McIlroy (68) tied for fourth with Kuchar (73), Woodland (73) and J.B. Holmes (69).

Jason Day, a Muirfield Village member and No. 1 in the world, got to within two shots of the lead until he tumbled to a 74 and tied for 27th, matching his best result at the Memorial. Jordan Spieth shot 73 and finished 12 shots behind in a tie for 57th.

Ali's hometown joins together in prayer and celebration

BOXING

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—Muhammad Ali's younger brother wept, swayed to hymns and hugged anyone he could reach. He raised his hands to the sky, eyes closed, surrounded by congregants at the church where their father once worshipped.

Rahaman Ali took center stage at the two-hour service at King Solomon Missionary Baptist Church, sitting in a front-row pew with his wife, Caroline. The church is not far from the little pink house in Louisville's west end where the Ali brothers grew up.

It was one of several emotional remembrances Sunday as the city joined together to mourn its most celebrated son, the Louisville Lip. Later this week, politicians, celebrities and fans from around the globe are expected for a Friday memorial service that Ali planned himself with the intent of making it open to all.

An airplane carrying the boxing great's body landed in his grieving hometown Sunday afternoon.

At services all over town, they recited Ali's words on religion: "Rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, oceans all have different names, but they all contain water," Ali once said. "So do religions have different names, and they all contain truth."

At a Sunday evening memorial at the Louisville Islamic Center, speakers from many faiths—Muslims, Christians, Catholics, Jews—lamented that Ali's death came at a time when political rhetoric is getting more divisive.

They did not mention Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump by name, but the reasons for the theme were clear. The Republican presidential candidate said he would temporarily ban all Muslims from entering the United States, a proposition Ali used one of his last public statements to rebuke.

"When the clamor of the disaffected targets those considered other we need someone to cry out that people are not born other - we make them other, through our fear, through our prejudice, our hatred, our desire to grasp for more than is rightfully ours," said Rev. Derek Penwell, who leads a Christian church in Louisville. "We need a voice who knows that true power is to help us to see that our determination to love in spite of our fear is the greatest expression of power that human beings can muster."

Ali famously converted to the Islamic faith and refused to fight in the Vietnam War, though it cost him years of his boxing career. He insisted throughout his life that people of all faiths and colors should come together in peace, and the speakers at the Islamic Center pondered whether anyone else has the strength or statute to take on the fight.

Djokovic tops Murray, finally wins French Open

PARIS (AP)—A French Open champion at long last, and the first man in nearly a half-century to win four consecutive major championships, Novak Djokovic grabbed a racket and etched a heart in the very red clay that had given him such heartache in the past.

Then, when he finally was handed the La Coupe des Mousquetaires—the one trophy he truly yearned for, the one he needed to complete a career Grand Slam—Djokovic held it overhead, his eyes shut, before kissing it, exhaling and smiling broadly. Later, Djokovic's father and friends sipped champagne from it.

In his 12th appearance at Roland Garros, and fourth final, the top-seeded Djokovic earned that elusive title with a 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 victory over No. 2 Andy Murray on Sunday, buoyed by a supportive crowd that repeatedly chanted his nickname, "No-le!"

"It's really a very special moment," Djokovic said. "Perhaps the greatest moment of my career."

Since losing the 2015 final in Paris, Djokovic has won 28 Grand Slam matches in a row, from Wimbledon and the U.S. Open last year, to the Australian Open in January, and now, after quite a wait, the French Open.

"This is something that is so rare in tennis," said Murray, who is now 2-8 in Grand Slam finals. "It's going to take a long time for it to happen again."

AP

Serbia's Novak Djokovic is cheered by ball girls after defeating Britain's Andy Murray in their final match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium, Sunday, June 5, 2016 in Paris.

The last man to hold all four major titles simultaneously was Rod Laver in 1969, when he earned a calendar-year Grand Slam. Djokovic now can set his sights on that ultimate tennis achievement; he's the first man since Jim Courier in 1992 to get halfway.

Djokovic, a 29-year-old from Serbia, owns six titles from the Australian Open, three from Wimbledon and two from the U.S. Open for a Grand Slam total of 12. Among men, only Roger Federer (with 17), Rafael Nadal (14) and Pete Sampras (14) have more. Djokovic is also one of eight men with at least one championship at each major.

"He's there, for sure—one of the best now," said Marian Vajda, Djokovic's co-coach with Boris Becker, one of the many stars of the sport who never won the French Open. "Hard to say who's the greatest."

Of Djokovic's 11 career losses at Roland Garros, six came against Nadal, one against Federer. Three came in finals, against Nadal in 2012 and 2014, and against Stan Wawrinka a year ago, when Djokovic's eyes welled with tears and the arena feted him with an unusually long ovation as he accepted his runner's-up plate.

Djokovic's 2016 path was unencumbered by any member of that trio: Federer withdrew before the tournament and Nadal before the third round, both citing injury; Wawrinka lost to Murray.

Still, Djokovic's most imposing adversary might very well have been the knowledge that the tournament that meant the most to him was the only tournament he couldn't conquer.

Until now.

"Winning it, you know, I felt it," Djokovic said. "I felt the tension and excitement. All the emotions. You name it."

When Djokovic sketched a valentine to his fans and then laid down on his back, it repeated a gesture made famous by three-time French Open champion Gustavo Kuerten.

"He asked me (for) permission," Kuerten said with a laugh.

On Sunday—the weather overcast but dry, unlike so much of the rainy past two weeks—the first choruses of "No-le! No-le!" accompanied Djokovic's entrance to the court. They echoed when he skipped to the baseline for the opening game and, louder still, when he broke to start.

It sounded as if this were Belgrade, rather than a neutral site, and Murray complained that spectators were calling out between serves.

They really raised a ruckus when a Murray serve was called a fault by a linesman, immediately overruled by chair umpire Damien Dumusois. Because Djokovic's return was out, Dumusois declared Murray led 30-love. Djokovic wanted the point replayed. Loud boos and whistles from the stands delayed play for a full minute.

Marlins avert series sweep vs depleted Mets

MIAMI (AP)—Jose Fernandez tied a career high with 14 strikeouts in seven scoreless innings to outpitch a resurgent Matt Harvey, and the Miami Marlins averted a series sweep by beating the shorthanded New York Mets 1-0 Sunday.

Fernandez (9-2) won his eighth consecutive start to tie Chris Hammond's team record, set in the franchise's first season in 1993.

Fernandez allowed four hits. The right-hander improved to 23-1 with a 1.53 ERA in 33 career starts at Marlins Park

David Phelps, the losing pitcher Saturday, bounced back with a 1-2-3 eighth. A.J. Ramos pitched a perfect ninth for his 27th consecutive save, including 18 this year.

Orioles 3, Yankees 1

In Baltimore, Matt Wieters followed a lengthy rain delay with a tiebreaking two-run, pinch-hit single off Aroldis Chapman in the eighth inning, and the Orioles rallied past New York.

Trailing 1-0 in the eighth inning, Baltimore had runners at first and second and one out when play was halted by heavy rain. After a delay of 1 hour, 37 minutes, Chapman entered seeking to earn his 10th save in 10 tries.

Blue Jays 5, Red Sox 4

In Boston, Marco Estrada took a no-hitter into the eighth inning for the third time in a year before it was broken up by Chris Young's home run with one out, and Toronto held off Boston.

Jose Bautista opened the game with a home run, the first of four Toronto hit over the Green Monster.

Rangers 3, Mariners 2

In Arlington, Jurickson Profar hit a tiebreaking single in a three-run fifth inning and Texas beat Seattle, sweeping a three-game series between the top two teams in the AL West.

Profar now has hits in all nine games with a .390 average in the leadoff spot since he was recalled from Triple-A Round Rock.

Diamondbacks 3, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Jake Arrieta's winning streak ended at 20 games when Patrick Corbin and struggling Arizona beat Chicago.

The reigning NL Cy Young Award winner had gone 24 regular-season starts without a loss since Cole Hamels pitched a no-hitter for Philadelphia at Wrigley Field on July 25.

Cardinals 6, Giants 3

In St. Louis, Aledmys Diaz, Matt Adams and Yadier Molina each had an RBI during a four-run sixth inning and St. Louis came from behind for the second straight game to beat San Francisco.

Carlos Martinez (6-5) allowed three runs in six innings and Matt Carpenter had three hits and an RBI for St. Louis. Trevor Rosenthal earned his 10th save in 11 chances.

Angels 5, Pirates 4

In Pittsburgh, Albert Pujols hit a two-run home run off reliever Tony Watson in the top of the eighth inning to lead Los Angeles over Pittsburgh.

It was Pujols' 30th career homer at PNC Park, the most of any road ballpark for the 36-year-old slugger.

Tigers 5, White Sox 2

In Detroit, Justin Verlander pitched seven strong innings and Justin Upton drove in a pair of runs as Detroit swept Chicago.

Detroit came into the series having lost eight of its last 10 games against left-handed starters, but beat a trio of Chicago lefties: Carlos Rodon, Chris Sale and Jose Quintana.

Dodgers 12, Braves 6

In Los Angeles, Yasmani Grandal hit a three-run homer, Corey Seager added two more home runs and Los Angeles beat Atlanta to complete a three-game sweep with its seventh win in a row at home.

Seager went 3 for 5, drove in four runs and scored twice two days after hitting three homers in Friday's 4-2 win in the series opener.

Nationals 10, Reds 9

In Cincinnati, Daniel Murphy homered and drove in three runs, and Jonathan Papelbon pitched out of his own major jam in the ninth inning to preserve Washington's victory over Cincinnati.

Washington left-hander Sammy Solis (1-1) struck out a career-high six in three innings of relief.

Astros 5, Athletics 2

In Houston, Evan Gattis homered for the third straight game, Carlos Gomez connected for the first time this season and Carlos Correa delivered a tiebreaking double in the seventh inning, helping Houston beat Oakland for a three-game sweep.

The Astros have won eight of nine.

Rockies 10, Padres 3

In San Diego, Carlos Gonzalez hit two two-run homers and drove in five runs, Jon Gray struck out a career-high 12 and Colorado beat San Diego to snap a four-game losing streak.

Rookie Luis Perdomo (1-2) started in place of James Shields for San Diego. Shields was traded to the Chicago White Sox on Saturday.

Indians 7, Royals 0

In Cleveland, Francisco Lindor hit one of Cleveland's four solo homers and drove in three runs, and the Indians completed a four-game sweep of World Series champion Kansas City with a rain-delayed victory.

Corey Kluber (5-6) allowed two hits and was pulled after the sixth inning when the game was delayed by inclement weather for 3 hours, 10 minutes.

Rays 7, Twins 5

In Minneapolis, Evan Longoria homered for the fourth consecutive game, connecting twice, and Tampa Bay beat Minnesota.

Logan Morrison also homered twice and Longoria added an RBI single in the ninth for Tampa Bay.

Phillies 8, Brewers 1

In Philadelphia, Aaron Nola pitched six scoreless innings and matched his career high with nine strikeouts and Philadelphia backed him with three home runs in a win over Milwaukee.

Nola (5-4), who turned 23 on Saturday, maneuvered out of several jams. The Brewers stranded 10 runners against him.

Marquez, Herrera score late as Mexico beats Uruguay

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP) Two late goals Sunday night preserved Mexico's image as a team to beat in Copa America.

Before Rafa Marquez and Hector Herrera scored to give their team a 3-1 victory, the only offense Mexico could muster was an own-goal by Uruguay's Alvaro Pereira four minutes into the match.

That ignominious moment came just after the Chilean anthem was, embarrassingly, played instead of the Uruguay anthem in the pre-game ceremonies. Copa America 2016 blamed the mistake on "a human error."

"It was a lack of respect, nothing more than that," Pereira said.

After some tense moments, the late scoring surge finally gave the loud, rowdy, vastly pro-Mexico crowd of 60,025 the victory it expected in the Copa America opener between teams considered the two best in Group C.

"It's step by step," Mexico's Andres Guardado said. "We have the capability. We have a lot of games to go but we have to continue on the same path and know that we are in a good spot but have work to do."

Mexico coach Juan Carlos Osorio knows his team will be the "home" team throughout the competition.

"We have to learn to play as protagonists (crowd favorites)," he said, "and this is how we should play in America."

Marquez's close-range shot in the 84th minute broke a 1-1 tie and Herrera's header from just outside the net added another score in extra time. Marquez's score came 10 minutes after Diego Godin's header tied it for Uruguay at 1-1.

"They struggled and tied the game," Uruguay coach Oscar Tabarez said. "We missed chances and that's just soccer. Mexico happened to get the goals and it's a just result."

Mexico, which never has won the Copa America, has not lost in 20 consecutive games.

Uruguay, a 15-time Copa America champion, was without its best player, Luis Suarez, who injured a hamstring in a match two weeks ago.

Marquez's go-ahead goal came after a pass slipped through his legs and to a teammate, who sent the ball back to him for a wide-open shot at the net.

"I got the pass and I controlled it well," he said, "and put a good shot on it."

Guardado and Uruguay's Matius Vecino drew red cards and will have to sit out a match.

Uruguay was down to 10 players after Vecino left just before halftime after kicking Mexico's Jesus Manuel Corona in the knee.

But despite being at a man disadvantage, Uruguay went on the attack earlier in the second half and, after several near misses, tied it at 1-1.

Guardado drew his second yellow card to set up a free kick for Uruguay. He thought it was an unwarranted call.

"The second one, that happens in soccer 20,000 times," Guardado said. "A player trying to start something by talking to the officials. He hit me and I had to defend myself."

AP

Mexico forward Javier "Chicharito" Hernandez and Uruguay defender Jose Gimenez battle for the ball during the first half of a Copa America group C soccer match at University of Phoenix Stadium, Sunday, June 5, 2016, in Glendale, Ariz.

Argentina kicks off Copa America with Messi concerns

Argentina begins Copa America against the team that it defeated in the tournament final last year, facing a 23-year title drought and institutional chaos back home.

Yet its most pressing concern is the physical and mental condition of Argentine captain Lionel Messi.

The Barcelona star testified on Thursday in his tax fraud trial in Spain and joined the national team the next day before its debut on Monday in Santa Clara, California, against Chile, the same opponent that defeated Argentina 4-1 in a penalty shootout after a 0-0 extra time draw in the 2015 Copa America final.

Messi, 28, also carries injury concerns after leaving a friendly in the second half of a 1-0 victory against Honduras on May 27 with a back and rib injury. After the match, Argentine manager Gerardo Martino said he "would not dare to venture a diagnosis."

"I'll listen to the doctor, then I'll talk to Leo to know if he still feels pain," Martino said Sunday at a news conference. "And then I'll have my say from the tactical side, although I'll listen to the player's opinion."

Since his arrival on Friday, Messi has trained lightly and separately from the group because of the injury. Martino indicated he wouldn't necessarily change his approach if Messi can't play.

"Setting aside the difference between Messi and every other player, our intent is not to change our style of play," he said.

He also characterized facing Chile as "a new opportunity," not a rematch.

Messi, a five-time Ballon d'Or winner, has not won any major senior trophy since joining the national team in 2005.

Argentina has won Copa America 14 times since 1921, but has not won an international tournament of any kind since 1993. Since defeating Mexico in 1993, Argentina has been in the Copa final three times and has been the runner-up a tournament-record 13 times.

FALCONS

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too with the last one courtesy of Tyrese Camacho's single. Angel Iguel, Aven Evangelista, Max Pangelinan, Mark Norita, Isaiah Teigita, and Camacho registered the six other runs for the Falcons off the Enforcers' series of miscues.

With the Falcons' juggernaut at the top of the fifth, they stole the upper hand, 10-6, and hung on tight with Dickinson finishing the job on the mound, allowing only four hits and no earned run. Dickinson came in for Camacho late in the fourth inning and after the Enforcers threatened to gain cushion, leading at 6-1.

The Enforcers tacked on five early runs at the top of the fourth with JP Celis hitting an RBI single, Donovan Guerrero having an RBI walk, Dennis Cabrera stealing home, and Gloyd Martin and Pedro Maratita reaching off a passed ball and wild pitch from Camacho. Camacho was eventually moved to centerfield in favor of Dickinson, who started his shift by giving up back-to-back walks before catching a line drive from Jared Taitingfong for the last out.

After the Enforcers' strong showing at the top of the fourth, the Falcons only countered with one run at the bottom as Iguel's single brought Zach Reyes home. However, the Falcons made up for their so-so performance in the first four innings by forcing the Enforcers to a 1-2-3 inning at the top of the fifth, while collecting eight runs at the bottom.

Now behind, the Enforcers got one run at the top of the sixth with Castro making it off the Falcons' errors. The eventual runners-up had a chance to score more as they had runners on third and second with two outs, but Maratita flied out at centerfield, allowing the Falcons to keep the driver' seat, 10-7. The Falcons registered the first two outs with Dickinson catching a fly from Cabrera and fanning out Ignacio Mendiola.

The Falcons went on to keep their lead and complete the come-from-behind finals win in style with a double play at the top of the seventh and last inning. Iguel caught a fly ball from Castro at leftfield and then threw the ball to Teigita, who tagged out Chris Achas. Dickinson earlier struck out Sean Rabauliman for the first out, while Maratita batted second for the Falcons and moved to first off the Falcons' booboo, but was left stranded after the double play.

T GALLERIA

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these matches were unavailable at press time. Other early quarterfinalists were Pool A top finisher MJD and Pool B first placer Pacific Islands Club.

First Game

T Galleria 82—Talania 17, Espina 16, De Dios 12, Hiroichi 10, Esdrelon 9, Devero 8, Demapan 8, Guiab 2.

GPPC 73 — Ocampo 20, Mungcal 10, Laguindam 9, Elchico 6, Tagle 8, Jalandoni 4, Lagung 4.

Scoring by quarters: 28-15, 51-34, 74-49, 82-73.

Second Game

BSI 101 — Bautista 34, Ibag 12, Guiang 12, Demapan 11, Atencio 8, Anonueva 6, A. Fernandez 5, Tudela 4, J. Fernandez 3, Escano 2, Cabrera 2.

CPA 94 — Brennan 35, Camacho 21, Robert 12, Reyes 10, Yangilmao 6, Pangelinan 6, Ulloa 5.

Scoring by quarters: 27-19, 52-48, 78-73, 101-94.

SAPONG

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gional tournament—when she topped the 100m run with a time of 13.35 seconds.

The 18-year-old runner also won the 200m run (27.87 seconds), was runner-up in the 400m (1:08.80), and helped the CNMI finish third in the 4x100m and 4x400m relay races. She was awarded a trophy during the closing ceremony of the MAC last Saturday and shared the event's top honors with Palau sprinter Rodman Teltull.

"I am proud of Zari's accomplishments in Pohnpei. It was a testament to her devotion to the sport and her discipline," said NMA official Elias Rangamar, one of the coaches who trained Sapong for the MAC.

"For two months, she trained early in the morning, starting at 5:30am before going to school," Rangamar added. "She was very consistent and worked hard in our training sessions."

As for the rest of the team, Rangamar said they did a great job and the CNMI's seven gold, four silver, and three bronze-medal haul in Pohnpei gives the Commonwealth something positive to look forward to in the 2018 Micronesian Games.

"I am not surprise with the strong performance of our athletes in Pohnpei. Even the U18 athletes, I knew they will win some medals for us," Rangamar said.

Jerald Castillo and Chloe Salvosa gave the CNMI two gold medals each, Nick Gross had one gold, while Bernadette Horey and Conatsu Kaga earned one and two silvers, respectively. Salvosa, Horey, Sapong, and Pinyarat Shankweiller teamed up in the Commonwealth's bronze medal finishes in the 4x400m and 4x100m relays. Other members of the squad were Daniel Joab, Sylvan Rangamar, Beo Ngirchongor, and Leo Cristobal. Reylynn Sapong and Ron Olopai were the team's officials.

"Our athletes' performance in Pohnpei gave us a gauge and something to work with for the Micro Games. Our U18 athletes will be at their peak when the Micro Games comes, plus we also have a couple more young athletes in the junior high school who did not make the trip to Pohnpei due to other commitments and finances, but we will work with them once the track resurfacing is done," Rangamar said.

2016 Island-wide Men's Basketball League Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Ali'i Blue Haus' Manolo Manalo rams into the defense of the Ol'Aces' Mike Babauta during Game 2 of their best-of-three title series in the 2016 Island-wide Men's Basketball League last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium. The Ol'Aces won the series, 2-0.

The Ol'Aces' Jack Lizama loses the ball to the baseline after facing the tough defense of Ali'i Blue Haus' Junar Guiab, left, and Elmer Esdrelon.

Ali'i Blue Haus' Junar Guiab unloads an open jumper as teammate Marlon De Dios provides the seal against the Ol'Aces' Gino Libuw.

The Ol'Aces' Dan Barcinas drives against three Ali'i Blue Haus defenders.

The Ol'Aces' Jack Lizama is fouled by Ali'i Blue Haus' Manolo Manalo, while the latter's teammate Bart Demapan tries to provide help defense.

Ali'i Blue Haus' Errol Peredo drives baseline against the Ol'Aces' Dar Barcinas, left, and Gino Libuw.

The Ol'Aces' Douglas Schmidt goes up for a jump-hook against Ali'i Blue Haus' Errol Peredo.

Ali'i Blue Haus' Elmer Esdrelon escapes the defense of the Ol'Aces' Dan Barcinas for a fastbreak layup.

The Ol'Aces' Mike Babauta keeps the ball away from Ali'i Blue Haus' Manolo Manalo, right, and Darwin Barbo, second right.

Warriors whip Cavaliers anew to take 2-0 lead

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Sapong stands out in Pohnpei

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Zarinae Sapong was named the Outstanding Female Athlete in the 2016 Micronesian Athletics Championships held in Pohnpei last week.

The youngest daughter of Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong and Penny Jones got the MAC officials and organizers' nods after winning two gold medals, one silver, and two bronzes in the June 2 to 4 competition. She earned her first medal last Thursday—the same day she was supposed to attend the graduation ceremony of Marianas High School, but had to miss it to compete in the re-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the CNMI women's relay team, right, pose for a photo at the medal podium after winning third place in the 4x100m relay race behind Guam and host Pohnpei last Saturday in the 2016 Micronesian Athletics Championships.

Falcons rally to win Junior League title

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Falcons' Tyrese Camacho, kneeling, hands over the glove to relief pitcher Spencer Dickinson during the top of the fourth inning of their title game against the Enforcers in the Junior League division of the SLLB last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Talaabwogh Falcons labored their way to the championship in the Junior League division of the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball, pulling off a come-from-behind 10-7 win against the Kagman Enforcers last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Falcons stared a 2-6 deficit after four complete innings of the winner-take-all finale, but managed to recover at the bottom of the fifth as they scored eight runs in the pivotal phase of the match. Seven players on the Falcons' batting order reached home plate. Spencer Dickinson was one of them and he batted twice and made it home two times,

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T Galleria, BSI advance to quarterfinals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

T Galleria and Best Sunshine International dispatched their respective playoff foes to move into the quarterfinal round of the 2016 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

T Galleria eliminated GPPC, 82-73, to clinch the fifth Round of 8 slot, while BSI booked the sixth quarterfinals ticket following a 101-94 triumph over Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Brendon Talania top-scored for T Galleria with his 17 points despite missing the first quarter of the playoff match. Bart Demapan, Mark Espina, and Marlon De Dios teamed up in Talania's absence in the opening canto to give T Galleria an early double-digit spread, 28-15.

Talania reported to the game in the second canto and this time partnered with Espina in stretching their lead to 17 at halftime, 51-34. T Galleria was never threatened in the second half to advance to the next round where they will face Pool A second finisher IT&E for the semis berth on the west side of the playoff draw. IT&E marched into the Round of 8 following a 71-57 win against the Feds last week.

Meanwhile, in the second game, Andrew Bautista towed BSI to the 7-point win over CPA after sizzling for 34 points. Dexter Guiang also scored in twin digits for BSI with his 12 markers.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

GPPC, left, and T Galleria players fight for the ball during the first quarter of their playoff game in the IT&E inter-government/business caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

BSIh led from start to finish, holding its ground against the repeated comeback bids of CPA, which remained in contention behind the explosive game of Donovan Brennan. The CPA gunner led all scorers with his 35 markers, but was held to 4 points in the final canto.

With the victory, BSI set up a quarterfinal showdown against DFEMS, which came from a 70-64 triumph over BECQ last week.

Only two quarterfinals berths were left and they were contested last night with Department of Public Safety battling CHCC and Northern Marianas Sports Association dueling Customs. Results of

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